

# History: How Significant Was The Blitz for Life in Sheffield?

## Year 6 Autumn 1 2025



### Key Figures

<b>Winston Churchill</b>	The prime minister of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945.
<b>Adolf Hitler</b>	The leader of Germany between 1933 and 1945.

### Websites

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z9s9q6f/revision/1>

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/homefront/bombing/blitz/default.htm>

<http://ww2today.com/13th-december-1940-sheffield-blitz>

### Key Facts

- The Sheffield Blitz happened in 1940.
- The worst attack came on the night of the 12<sup>th</sup> December, 1940.
- On this night, 336 German aircraft flew over, dropping bombs for about nine hours. Many buildings were damaged, and much of the town centre was destroyed.
- Three days later, on the 15<sup>th</sup> December, more bombers came back and attacked the factories, but only a few were badly damaged.
- Altogether, 589 people were killed.

### Enquiry Questions

- WW2: Whose war? What was WW2?
- How did life change in Sheffield during WW2?
- How effectively was propaganda used during WW2?
- What was the Sheffield Blitz?
- How significant was the impact of WW2?

### Key Dates

**September 1939:** Germany invaded Poland.  
**September 1939:** Warnings were released about likely air-raids.  
**1940:** The Blitz began.  
**12<sup>th</sup> December 1940:** Attacks on Sheffield began.  
**16<sup>th</sup> December 1940:** Attacks on Sheffield ended.  
**May 1941:** The main air-raids diminished.

### Key Vocabulary

**Allies** – Countries, including Britain, that fought together against Germany.

**ARP Warden** – Air Raid Precautions Wardens were responsible for protecting civilians from the danger of air-raids.

**Axis** – Countries, principally Germany, Italy and Japan, who fought against the Allies.

**Blackout** - Switching off all lights at night so enemy aircraft could not see houses or factories.

**Blitz** – An intense or sudden military attack.

**Evacuee** - A person moved from a dangerous place to one of safety.

**Home Front** - The civilian population and activities of a nation whose armed forces are engaged in war abroad.

**Propaganda** - Information put out in radio broadcasts, leaflets and posters by governments to change minds or influence people.

**Luftwaffe** – The German Air Force.

### Historical Skills

- Describe features of historical events and people from past societies and periods they have studied.
- Say where a period of history fits on a timeline.
- Look at two different versions and say how the author may be attempting to persuade or give a specific viewpoint.
- Identify and explain their understanding of propaganda.
- Describe a key event from Britain's past using a range of evidence from different sources.

### Why Don't You...

- Create a timeline of key dates?
- Take part in the Sheffield Memorial Trail, creating a map of your route?
- Write a diary as if you were living in Sheffield during the Blackout?

### Concepts

**Parliament** - our pupils will develop a basic understanding of how we are governed and how this has developed chronologically throughout history.

**Cause and consequence** - the causes look for 'what were the actions/beliefs/circumstances...?' that led to a change or event that we examine, and then the consequences of these.