Subject	Geography
Unit/Topic	Year 7 - Coasts

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Fetch	The distance over which a wave has travelled.
Swash	Movement of a wave up the beach.
Backwash	Movement of a wave down the beach.
Tides	The rise and fall in sea level, due mainly to the pull of the moon.
Erosion	The wearing away of rock, stones and soil by rivers, waves, wind or glaciers.
Transportation	The process which moves material from one place to another.
Deposition	The dropping of material by either rivers, waves, wind or glaciers.
Hydraulic action	The sheer force of the waves hitting the cliff.
Attrition	The breaking down of rock by them hitting together.
Abrasion	The scraping away of material by rocks and sediment carried in the waves.
Solution/corrosion	The action of acid in the water to wear away rock.
Prevailing wind	The direction of the most frequently occurring wind is coming from.
Longshore drift	How sand and other material is carried parallel to the shore by the waves.
Landform	A feature formed by erosion or deposition.
Headland	Land that juts out into the sea.
Bay	A smooth curve between two headlands.
Arch	The curved structure left when the sea erodes the inside of a cave away.

Spit	A strip of land or shingle in the sea.
Constructive wave	Waves that build up a beach.
Destructive wave	Waves that remove material from the beach.
Coastal defences	Barriers to protect the coast from erosion or flooding.
Hard engineering	Involves building artificial structures which try to control natural processes.
Soft engineering	Involves the use of vegetation and natural elements such as rocks or sand to protect the coastline.
Beach replenishment	Adding sand to a beach to replace the sand the waves carried away.
Groynes	Wood barriers prevent longshore drift, so the beach can build up.
Gabions or RipRap	Cages of rocks/boulders absorb the waves energy, protecting the cliff behind.
Managed retreat	Low value areas of the coast are left to flood and erode naturally.
Stakeholder	A person or group of people who have an interest in an issue or a place.
Sustainable development	Development that meets the needs of today without compromising the needs of future generations.