

Libby: We live in the South West of England, in a small coastal county called Cornwall. Living so close to the sea has hugely influenced our culture and traditions, from St Piran, the patron saint of Cornwall, who travelled over the sea from Ireland and founded our county's flag, to the Boxing Day swim, where hundreds of people take part in diving into the freezing ocean the day after Christmas.

Anna: In our video, we asked many young people what living in Cornwall means to them and how it affects what they love and the activities they do.

*(play video)*

As you can see, we really value how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful and diverse place., as well as greatly appreciating the opportunities our coast brings us. From the older generations to young children, everyone immerses themselves in Cornish culture and all the great things it has to offer.

Tom: But climate change is starting to impact our everyday lives, especially our generation who will grow up noticing the gradually increasing changes in our climate. Coastal paths are slowly getting destroyed due to rising sea levels and the erosion it brings. We've seen oil spills polluting the ocean, which make their way to our shoreline and damage our wildlife. Plastic has also been washing up and covering our beautiful beaches with litter, the amounts of which are always increasing. Just by going down for a beach walk or to surf, you can see birds, fish and other sea life which have been hurt by this plastic. We can even see this litter in our city of Truro, when it washes in with the rivers that flow into the town.

Lucy: The causes of pollution may originate far from our coast, but we can see the effects of it everyday. In response, our community has organised beach cleanups, as well as groups like surfers against sewage (which our own school has taken part in) who are working

towards minimising pollution. Hopefully we can combat the effects of pollution and climate change so that we preserve the the coastline that our generation have said they treasure so much, and so that the generations to come can continue to enjoy our culture.