My Local History Investigation with Ellie

Learning objective: To research and describe how our local area has changed over time.

Follow the prompts below to write a historical report about your local area. Use your research, interviews, or photographs to fill in the sections. Remember to use formal historical language.

Ellie the elephant has a brilliant memory, and she wants you to help her record the fascinating history of our local community.

Word bank: long ago · in the past · originally · historically · significantly · developed · transformed · due to · furthermore · in contrast · over time

1. Introduction: What is the name of your local area and why is it important to you? Start by saying: My local area is called... and it has a long history because... (2 marks)

2. Life in the Past: What was your area like many years ago? Start by saying: A long time ago, the buildings in our area were... and people used to... (3 marks)

3. The Big Change: What is one major change that has happened (e.g., a new road, a shop closing, or a park being built)? Start by saying: One significant change that happened was... which transformed the area by... (3 marks)

4. Comparing Then and Now: How does the area look today compared to the past? Start by saying: Today, our area looks different because... However, some things have stayed the same, such as... (3 marks)

5. Conclusion: What is your favourite historical fact about your area? Start by saying: To conclude, I think the most interesting part of our local history is... because... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Create a 'Then and Now' map of your street. Label two buildings that have changed and one building that has remained exactly the same over the last fifty years.