



THE MATHEMATICAL  
ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

# Implementing the Australian Curriculum Reasoning

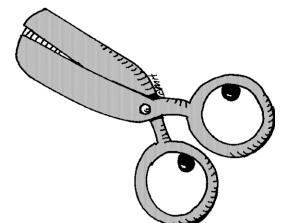


Sharyn Livy  
Professional Officer  
[slivy@mav.vic.edu.au](mailto:slivy@mav.vic.edu.au)  
[www.mav.vic.edu.au](http://www.mav.vic.edu.au)



# Overview

- Overview of the Australian Curriculum
- Proficiency strands
- Reasoning
- Teach Maths for Understanding





# Australian Curriculum v4.2

- [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au)
- You may choose to download or print the Australian Curriculum by year level or by capabilities – mathematics!

AusVels <http://ausvels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>



# Organisation Foundation to Year 10

- Content strands
  - Number and algebra
  - Statistics and probability
  - Measurement and geometry
- Proficiency strands
  - Understanding
  - Fluency
  - Reasoning
  - Problem solving



# Proficiencies

- » *Understanding*
- » *Fluency*
- » *Problem Solving*
- » *Reasoning*

*The proficiency strands describe the actions in which students can engage when learning and using the content.*



# Reasoning

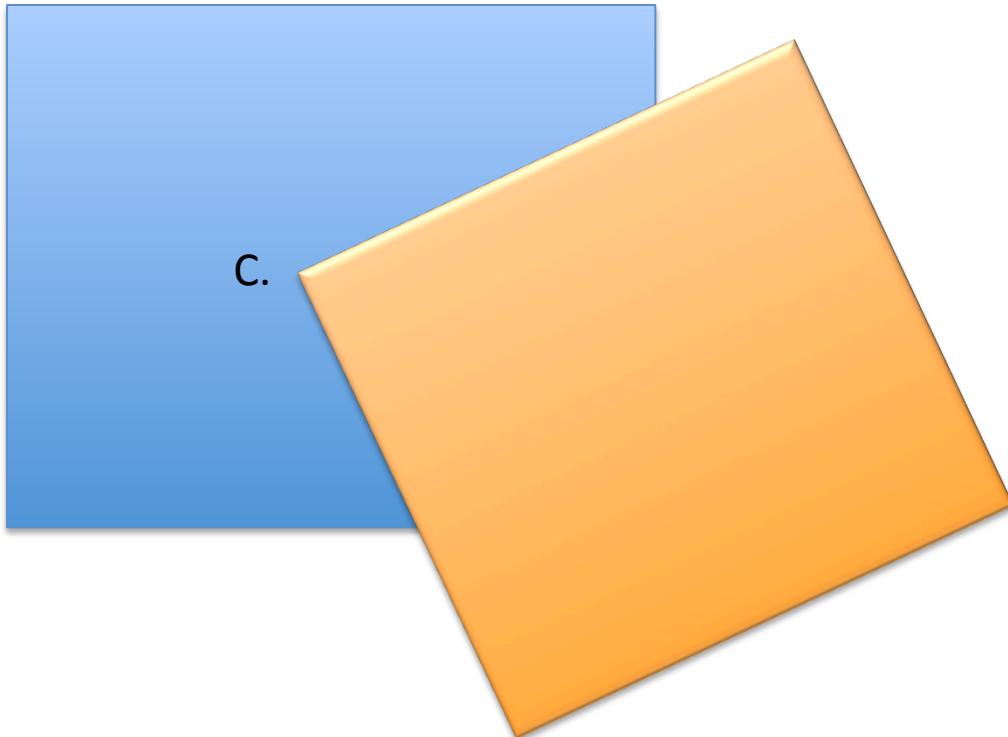
- To think logically about the relationships among concepts and situations
- Answers are right because they follow an agreed assumption through a series of logical steps
- Analysing, proving, evaluating explaining, inferring, justifying and generalising



# What might it look like?

- Investigating strategies
- Continuing patterns
- Interpreting results of chance experiences
- Explaining strategies
- Applying understanding
- Justifying the results

# Rotating squares



What reasoning strategies did you use?

What was your progression or reasoning?

# How do we develop reasoning?

- Provide tasks
- Give time to analyse and explore
- Resist the urge to tell
- Ask probing questions to prompt thinking, including why, how do you know, what is your reason, can you convince me
- Work with a partner



# Is it true why or why not?

For example, consider the following problems:

$$7 + 4 + 5 = 18 - 2$$

$$5.6 + 3.07 = 3.07 + 5.6$$

$$\frac{3}{5} - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{5}$$

$$21 \times 34 + 17 = 34 + 17 \times 21$$

$$7 \times 52 = 3 \times 52 + 4 \times 52$$



# Can you convince me?

Playing around with adding integers (whole numbers) Max came to two conclusions:

*The sum of any four even numbers is a multiple of 4*

*The sum of any three consecutive numbers must be a multiple of three.*

Do you agree with Max's conclusions?



# Missing numbers

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 & 8 & ? \\ + & 5 & ? & 6 \\ \hline 1 & ? & 8 & 6 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} ? & 4 & ? \\ + & 6 & ? & 6 \\ \hline ? & 5 & 1 & 5 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} ? & 2 & 4 \\ - & 7 & 4 & ? \\ \hline ? & 8 \end{array}$$

# During or at the end of the lesson

- Encourage students to question one another
- Expect students to communicate their reasoning, orally and in writing
- Share explanations and reflections
- Promote comfortable sharing and convincing arguments