Using formative assessment in Mathematics – Secondary

Transcript

(GENTLE MUSIC PLAYS)

In 2019 the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority partnered with the Assessment Research Centre at the University of Melbourne to provide professional learning for teachers to strengthen their understanding and use formative assessment rubrics.

Why use formative assessment rubrics?

In creating this formative rubric we can't just assume students know the base knowledge coming in to Year 7. So it's actually identifying, yes, we have to make sure that we're attending to this particular substrand, but we also have to recognize where are our students entering from and how can we make that equal and differentiate for all students.

What were some considerations when writing or using the rubrics?

For me it also highlighted how important it is to refine. So, when we initially did our rubric and developed our task we thought that we were on a winner. But then once implementing it then we kind of established that there were some areas that needed that tweaking. So then if we were to do this again, next time I think it would be a little bit more efficient and a better way of testing everything that we wanted to.

Being really deliberate in the words that we use to describe the criteria to ensure that students are actually meeting what we've...Where it sits in the Victorian Curriculum and the words they use to differentiate.

Sometimes you forget to go and take that step back and think, "What is the key bits of information that my students need to learn?" rather than, "Will I have to do this?

Then I have to do that, then I have to do that." It just gets a little bit overwhelming I suppose. But I've really enjoyed breaking it down and saying, "These are the key concepts that we need to talk about."

How does formative assessment impact student learning?

Formative assessment as well as finding out where the students are, which is great for the teacher and helps you decide where you're going to take your teaching. But it also allows you to then, I guess, show students how they've grown. So, they might not be reaching the highest level that they can, that there is to achieve but a student can see how they've grown using a formative assessment and a rubric in particular.