

Essentials of Numeracy For All

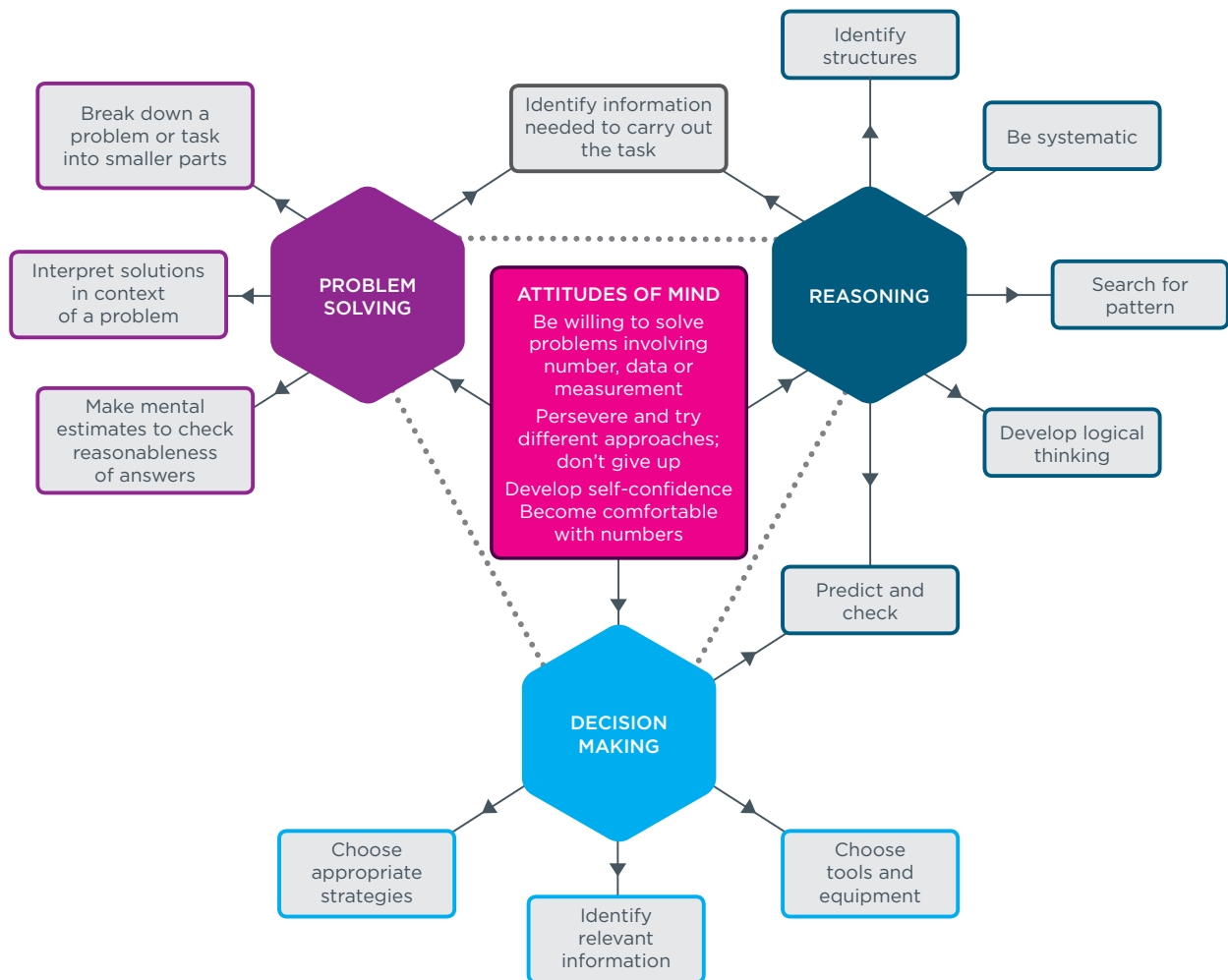
The 'Essentials of Numeracy for All' provides an overall picture of the numeracy landscape and attempts to summarise all the key skills, processes, concepts and attitudes that define 'being numerate'. We show the important links between these elements, rather than an unprioritised 'tick list' of skills. An expanded version of this diagram can be seen on the last page of this document.



Being Numerate

Being numerate goes beyond simply 'doing sums'. It means having the confidence and competence to use numbers and think mathematically in everyday life, for example being able to make estimates, identify possibilities, weigh up different options, decide which is most appropriate and choose the correct skills to tackle and solve the problem or situation.

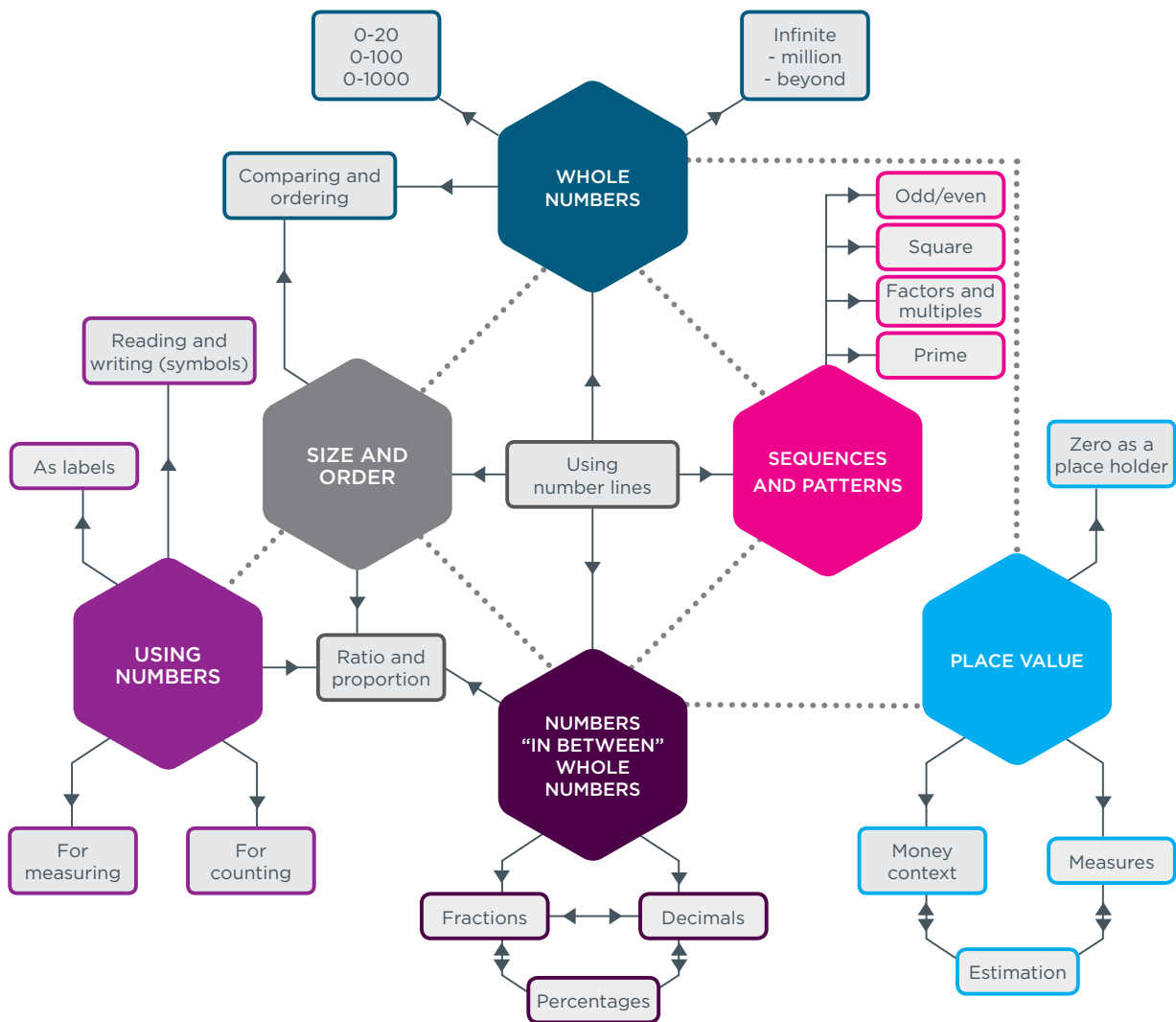
Being numerate supports a surprising range of areas in everyone's lives, whatever their age. Numeracy therefore is a life skill – one that we believe everyone has a right to throughout their lives.



Numbers

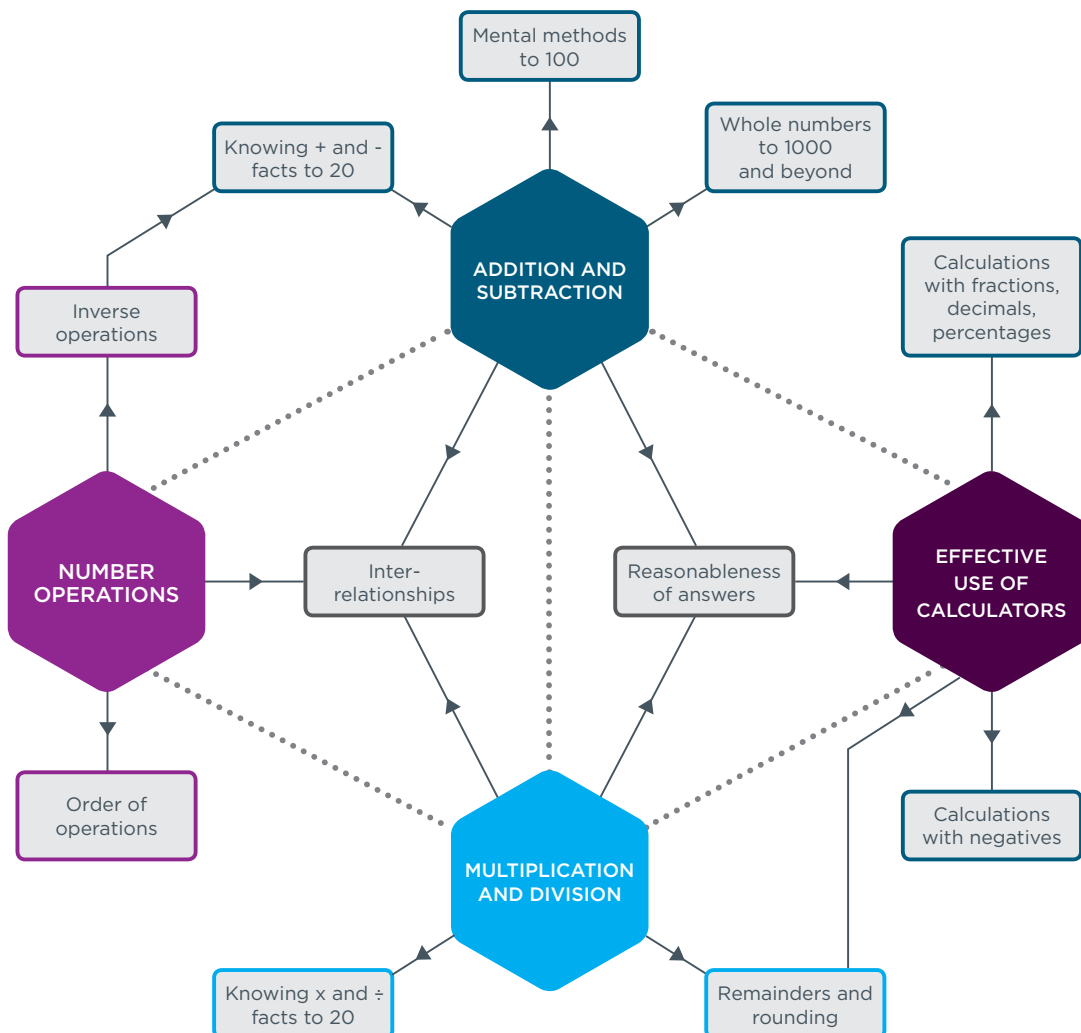
(and The Number System)

Numbers are all around us. To have a sense of the size of a number and where it fits into the number system we need to understand how the pattern and structure in the number system works and how numbers relate to each other.



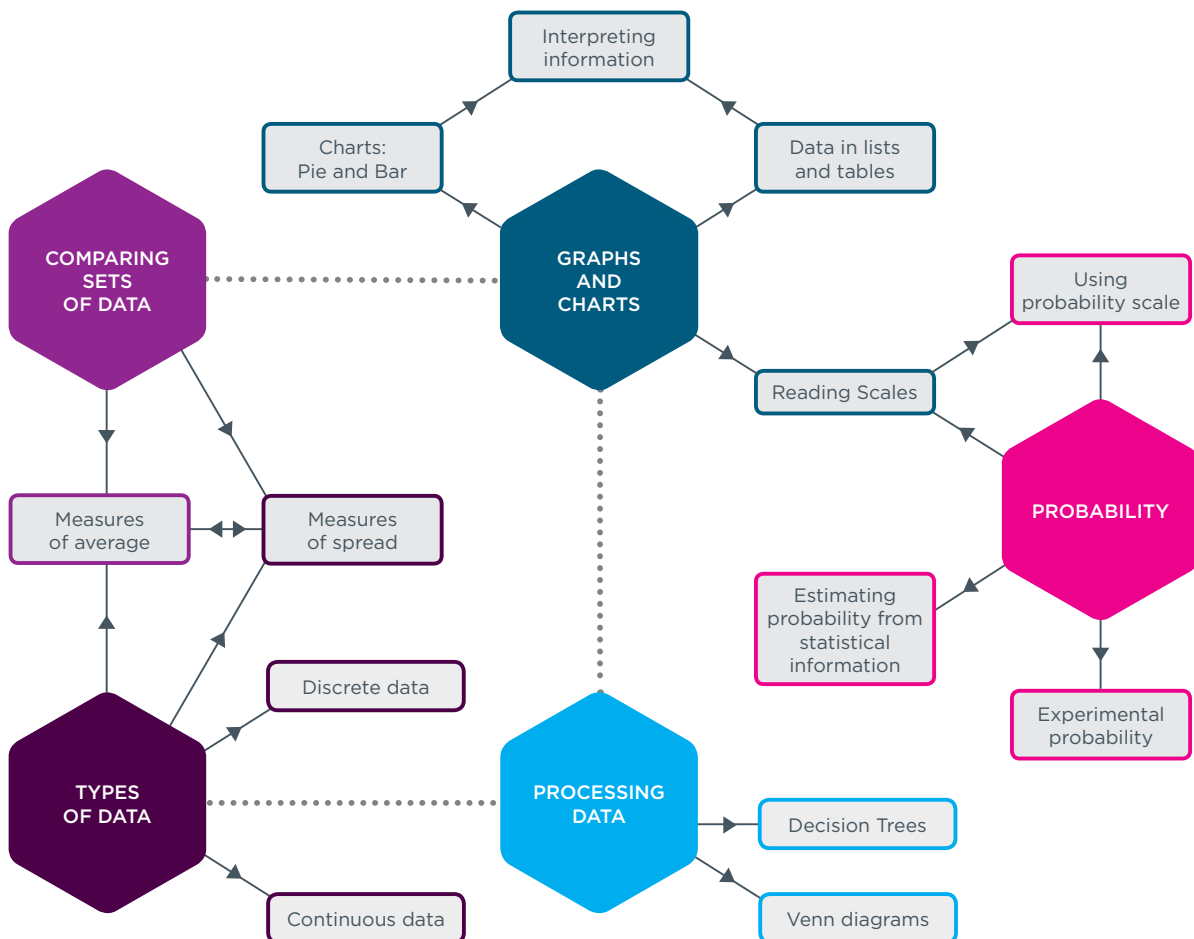
Operations and Calculations

As well as knowing about the number system, being numerate also means understanding the ways in which numbers can be combined or acted upon. This allows us to make confident and sensible choices about which methods to use in a given context and then to calculate accurately.



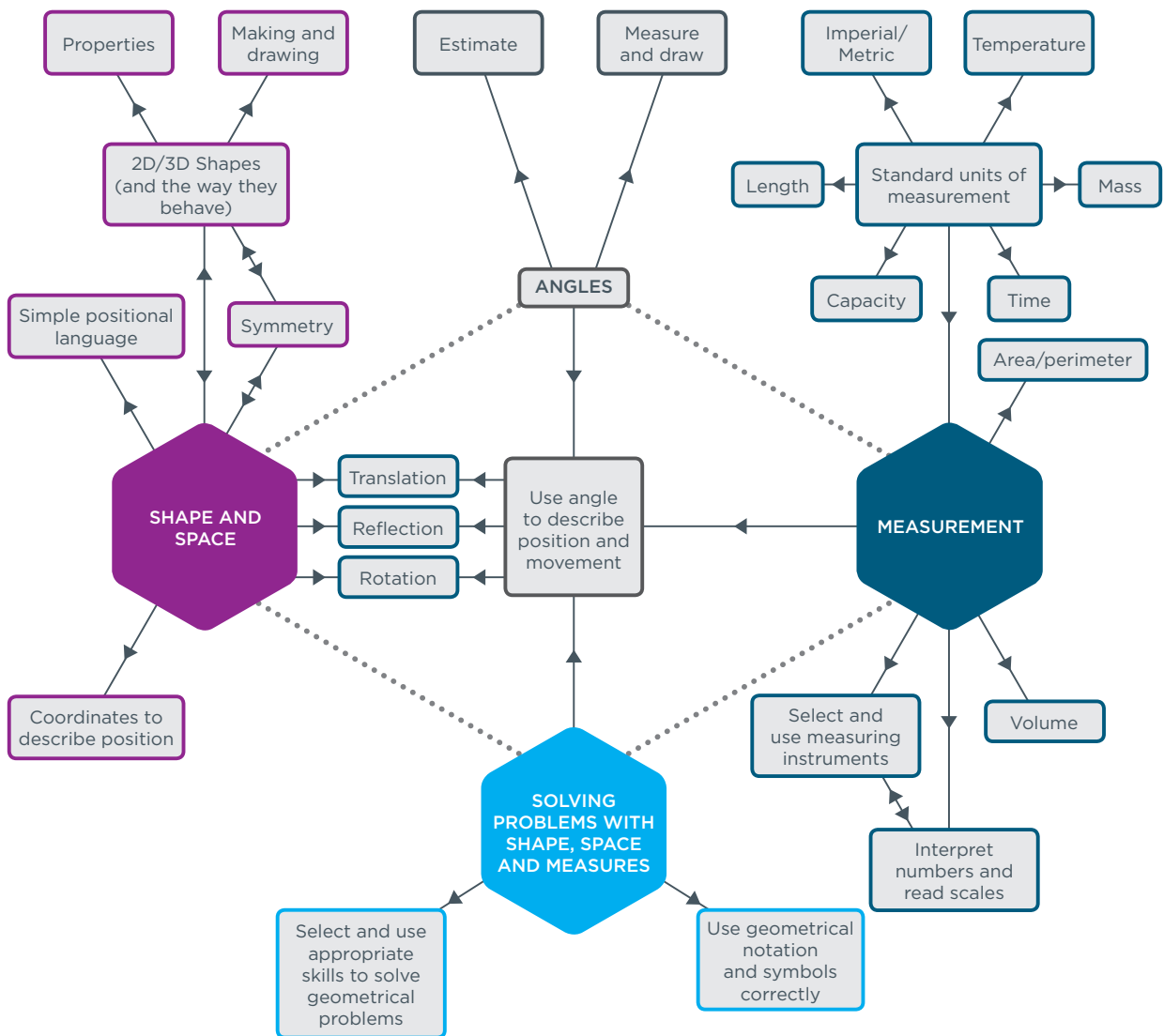
Handling Information

Whether cooking, browsing the web, interpreting a pay slip, giving medicine to children, watching the news, working out personal finances, or taking part in elections, everyone needs to be numerate to interpret and make sense of data and information presented in a variety of ways.



Shape, Space and Measures

We use measurement all the time, and we measure lots of different things such as time, length, and temperature. We regularly solve problems using our knowledge of shape, space and measure, for example, working out if a new sofa will fit in the living room or laying a carpet.



Essentials of Numeracy For All (expanded)

