The Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic

Teacher notes

Why use this resource?

Once students are clear about the fact that if a prime number p divides the product ab then p divides a or p divides b, they can go on to show that every integer has a unique prime factorisation. This resource gives the steps of a proof, but students have to sort them into the right order. This is a good way to practise working with a more sophisticated proof than most students would come up with themselves at this stage, and gives students the chance to get used to a more formal style of language and argument.