



Deep Questioning

“The unexamined life is not worth living”—Socrates. Examining beyond the immediate, the surface or apparent is a part of the capability of deep questioning. Through deep questioning, there may not be ‘an answer’ or ‘the answer’. Deep questioning invites participants to investigate, and go beyond seeking answers to every question. The General Directory for Catechesis (GDC) emphasises those participating in the learning “must be an active subject, conscious and co-responsible, and not merely a silent and passive recipient.” ¹ (n. 167)

The Spiritual Capability may involve:

- Reflecting upon the present reality and imagining difference in the future
- Seeking to continually discover a multitude of answers through inquiry
- Openness to new possibilities
- Delving beyond the surface and engaging with possibilities in depth.

Examples of educators promoting this capability could be when they:

- Engage students and themselves in deep wonderings
- Ensure inclusiveness of all questions and reflections, not just religious ones
- Encourage possibility thinking
- Engage students in problem solving.

¹ Congregation for the Clergy (1997) *The General Directory for Catechesis* downloaded from http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccclergy/documents/rc_con_ccatheduc_doc_17041998_directory-for-catechesis_en.html