

workshop
02

FOCUS ON LEARNING

**EFFECTIVE
QUESTIONING**

Learning intentions for this workshop

You should be able to:

- understand what effective questioning is
- consider ways to make questioning more effective
- outline strategies for effective questioning in the classroom

What is effective questioning?

It is the framing, delivering, timing, soliciting and responding to questions in order to provide information about student knowledge, understanding and skills that informs the teacher's planning and selection of teaching strategies to move students from where they are to where they need to go.

Do we ask too many questions?

Research shows that teachers ask approximately
one question every **72** seconds....

.....**38%** of these are actually
answered by the teacher.

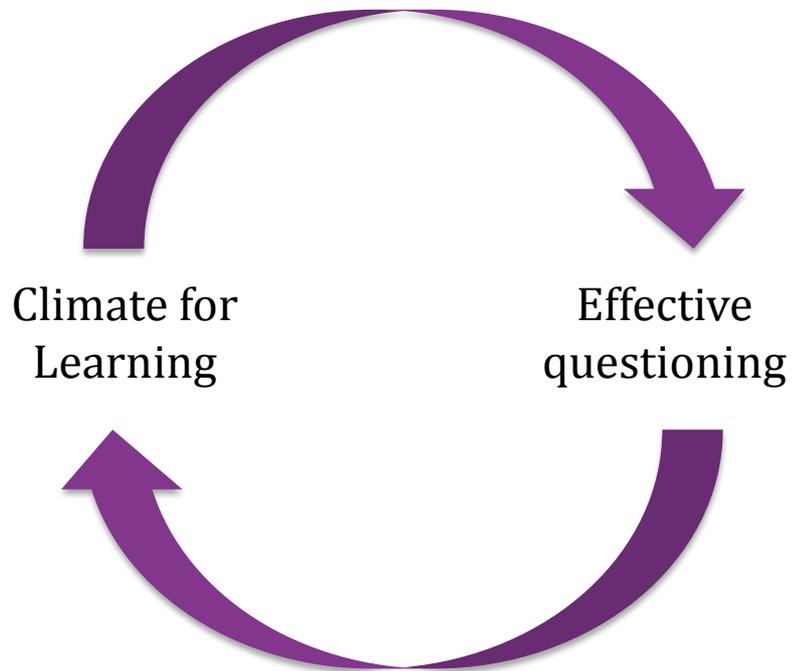
Consider

How well do the questions we currently pose help us to:

- identify where students are currently in their learning
- expand and deepen the learning
- inform planning for future learning?

Is there anything you could do better or differently to meet these three goals?

Creating the right climate



1. Promote a risk-taking culture
2. Create a community of inquiry
3. Demonstrate a commitment to learning for all



**Make questioning more effective by...
...asking better questions.**

- Ask fewer questions
- Ask more ‘open’ questions
- Sequence questions
- Prepare key questions



**Make questioning more effective by...
...asking question in a way.**

- Involve the whole class
- Think, pair, share
- Provide think time
- Try ‘no hands up’



**Make questioning more effective by...
...dealing with answers productively.**

- Use wrong answers to develop understanding
- Prompt students
- Listen and respond positively



Make questioning more effective by...
generating students' questions

- Model questioning for students
- Provide opportunities for students to practice their skills
- Plan time for students' questions and for dealing with them effectively

Discussion questions

- Do students ask questions in your class? And, what kinds of questions do they ask?
- How can effective questioning practices contribute to making teaching and learning more engaging?
- What aspect of your questioning practices might you review and why?

Key messages

- Establishing the right climate is crucial
- See the classroom as a community of inquiry
- Share the role of questioner with the student
- Effective questioning is designed to
 - identify the present level of understanding
 - extend and deepen learning
 - inform future planning