



Programme overview

'Making it Real' - DCN Workshop for Professionals

9 May 2025 – Zoom

TIME	ACTIVITY
9.15	Workshop opens – networking in breakout rooms
9.30	Welcome and Aims for the day – Mark Stephenson and Nina Barnsley <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Donor conception is a different way of creating a family for everyone. It has lifetime implications for all family members - and for donors.• Consider what helps people considering donor conception make decisions?• Explore research and the approaches taken by DCN workshops.• Reflect on the experiences of donor-conceived children and a donor conceived adult, including experiences of using the DNA testing companies. You will also learn how DCN supports dc adults, families and professionals.
9.55	Introductions
10.20	The long view – Lucia Grounds (inc Q&A) <p>Lucia's experience as a parent of teenagers highlights how her children are dealing with being donor conceived, including the impact of DNA testing.</p>
11.15	Comfort break
11.35	What helps people decide whether donor conception is right for them? - Marilyn Crawshaw (inc Q&A)
12.30	Small group work: From theory to practice
12.50	LUNCH
1.40	Family journeys through infertility, treatment and raising a family (inc Q&A) <p>People considering donor conception need to acknowledge their own feelings to bring up confident children. Examples from DCN workshops illustrate the importance of peer support and the opportunity to share both positives and challenges.</p>
2.10	Small group work: Donor conception is not just another fertility treatment
2.50	Comfort break
3.10	Making it Real – Lou (inc Q&A) <p>A donor-conceived adult shares her journey so far.</p>
4.10	Implications and challenges post 2023 –Nina Barnsley <p>How things are looking in the new landscape</p>
4.25	Final reflections, Feedback and Conclusion <p>What are the key issues you will take from today?</p>
4.45	Conclusion and Close