

Programme Overview

‘Making it Real’ – DCN Workshop for Professionals

Friday 8th May 2026 – 9.15-4.45 BST – Zoom

TIME	ACTIVITY
9.15 GMT	Workshop opens – networking in breakout rooms
9.30	Welcome and aims for the day – Mark Stevenson and Nina Barnsley Donor conception is a different way of creating a family for everyone involved. It has lifetime implications for parents, children and donors, as well as the wider family. - Consider what helps people considering donor conception make decisions - Explore research and the approaches taken by DCN - Reflect on the experiences and support needs of parents and donor conceived people, including experiences of using DNA testing
9.55	Introductions
10.20	The Long View – Lucia Grounds (inc Q&A) Lucia’s experience as a parent of teenagers highlights how her children are dealing with being donor conceived, including the impact of DNA testing.
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	What do donor conception families need? (inc Q&A) Insights into the hopes and anxieties of prospective parents and parents, including supporting children in the potential search for half-siblings and donors.
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) A donor conceived adult shares her journey so far
4.10	Implications and challenges post-2023 How things are looking in the new landscape
4.25	Final Reflections, Feedback and Conclusion What are the key issues you will take from today?
4.45	Close