



**An Chomhairle Náisiúnta  
um Oideachas Speisialta**  
National Council  
for Special Education

## **Research Conference 2025**

**The Cusack Suite, Croke Park, Dublin.**

**D03 P6K7**

**Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November**

**09.30 – 16.00 hrs**

**Benefits of Practitioner-Based Research and Post-  
School Pathways and Transitions**

## Agenda

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08.30 Registration and Tea/Coffee

### Introduction

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09.30 Welcome: **Dr. Fergal Lynch**, NCSE Council Chairperson

09.40 Conference Address: **Michael Moynihan TD**, Minister for State at the Department of Education and Youth with special responsibility for Special Education and Inclusion

### 09.50 Session 1: Benefits of Practitioner-Based Research

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**Chair: John Kearney, Chief Executive Officer, NCSE**

10.00 **Prof. Sarah Parsons**, Professor of Autism and Inclusion, Southampton Education School, University of Southampton

*Building pathways to impact together: benefits and examples of close to practice research*

10.30 **Q & A**

10.40 **Examples of Practice Based Research in Irish Schools – Panel Discussion**

Contributors:

Éilis Dillon, St. Cecilla's Special School, Sligo

Fiona Greene, formerly Coláiste Dún Iascaigh, Tipperary

Maeve Foxton, Saint Raphael's College, Loughrea

Aisling White, Mid-West School for the Deaf, Limerick

John O'Sullivan, formerly CBS Thurles, Tipperary

11.15 **Panel Discussion Q & A**

11.40 **Tea/Coffee**

12.15 **Session 2: Post-School Pathways and Transitions**

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**Chair: Dr. Peter Archer, NCSE Research Committee Chairperson**

12.20 **Dr. Valerie L. Mazzotti**, Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professor of Special Education, Dept of Special Education, Kansas University

*Learnings from the USA: secondary transitions for students with special educational needs, evidence-based practices and predictors of postschool success*

12.50 **Q & A**

13.00 **Lunch**

14.15 **Session 2 continues: Post-School Pathways and Transitions the Irish Perspective**

**Chair: Dr. Peter Archer, NCSE Research Committee Chairperson**

14.20 **Beth Young** Associate Director of Social Policy Research at Fortia Insight, formerly RSM

*Evaluation of the Comprehensive Employment Strategy Transition Pilot Programme – findings from an NCSE commissioned evaluation*

14.50 **Q & A**

15.00 **Dr. Eamonn Carroll**, Post-doctoral Researcher at Munster Technological University, formerly ESRI and **Keyu Ye**, Marketing Insights Analyst at Flutter Entertainment, formerly ESRI

*Paths, Tracks, Gaps and Cliffs: The Post-school Transitions of Students with Special Educational Needs – findings from an NCSE commissioned study*

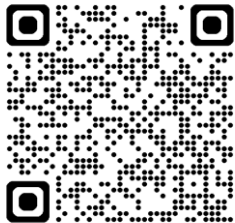
15.30 **Q & A**

15.40 **Thank you and conference close**

*Sign language interpretation and lunch will be provided*

### **Q&A – Slido.com**

To submit questions during the conference, use the QR code below or go to [www.slido.com](http://www.slido.com) and enter code #NCSE2025



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A paper copy has been provided to fill in and return in one of the boxes provided. Alternatively, to fill in online, please scan the QR code below.

