

## Interested?

Please complete this application and return to:

**Lizzie Batten**

**DLA Project Co-ordinator**

**Amaze**

**Community Base**

**113 Queens Road**

**Brighton BN1 6XG**

**Name**

**Address**

**Telephone**

## Personal statement

On a separate sheet please say how your life experience is relevant to the role of a DLA volunteer. You should write no more than about 250 words.

## Signed

Or if you would prefer to have chat before doing this, ring Amaze on 01273 772289 and ask to speak to Lizzie

Amaze aims to empower parents by supporting them through the emotional and practical demands of getting the right services for their children, especially in the areas of education, finance, social services, leisure and healthcare.

Amaze is a registered charity, our work is supported by grants from public bodies and charitable trusts.

Amaze can offer parents and carers impartial information, advice and one to one support to find out about and claim DLA and other benefits relating to their child's special needs.



*Registered Charity no. 1078094*

**DLA  
CAN MAKE A  
BIG  
DIFFERENCE**

**UNLESS YOU HAVE MADE  
A SUCCESSFUL CLAIM  
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH**

**LOTS OF FAMILIES CAN ONLY**

**IMAGINE**

**WE ALL NEED SUPPORT TO DO THE  
HARD STUFF AND DLA CLAIMS ARE**

**TOUGH**

**CAN YOU BE  
A DLA  
VOLUNTEER?**

**E**very parent wants the best for their child, but if your child has special needs, often just working out how to meet everyday bills can be tricky. It costs about three times more to bring up a child who has special needs and yet many of the families we work with struggle on low incomes and about half are managing on benefits alone.

Disability Living Allowance is a 'passporting' benefit. With an award of DLA, families are able to claim other premiums, allowances and tax credits. But without help many families miss out.

Often parents find it hard to find their way around the claim pack and tell us they feel unsure what sort of things are useful to include. Some parents are so much in the practice of helping their child that they need help to notice the extra things they do. For others thinking about missed milestones is so painful that it's hard to get started at all. And some parents know what they want to say but can't write it down.

It can make all the difference for a parent to have someone to talk to, who is familiar with the claim pack and has the time and skills to help them make a strong application.

As a DLA Volunteer, you would offer parents this invaluable support.

## What would I do?

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is a benefit for children and young people who need a lot more help with personal care or to stay safe because of their disability or illness, than another child of their age.

What does a DLA Volunteer do?

- They support parents by having the time to listen and the skills to help them make a strong claim.
- Meet with parents to talk about their child's difficulties.
- Help them think about how these difficulties impact on their daily lives.
- Explain the process of applying for DLA and how to make a strong case.
- Help parents understand reports and advices about their child and consider which of these could be useful to include as supporting evidence.
- Assist parents to fill in the claim pack: often this includes scribing on a parent's behalf.

## To be a DLA Volunteer you need to:

- Have a non-judgemental attitude.
- Enjoy filling in forms.
- Be good at listening and communicating with adults.
- Be willing to attend training and supervision sessions.
- Be available for about 1 or 2 days a month during school hours.
- It helps to have some awareness of the experience of families who have a child with special needs.

## Training and Support

We provide training and on-going supervision. No prior knowledge is required. We will pay all your out of pocket expenses.