

How do you get parent support?

Parents should call our helpline on 01273 772289 and talk to one of our advisers first. We may be able to give you the support you need over the phone. If not, you will be referred to the project coordinator who will match you up with a volunteer from the team.

Teachers, head teachers, SENCOs and other professionals often recommend our service to parents. We ask that they encourage the parent to make contact with us themselves. It is the parent's choice to use Amaze. However, if you work with a family and know the parents will have difficulty in calling us themselves, please get in touch so we can work out an alternative.

Amaze's work on transition

Amaze aims to promote good practice locally around preparing young people with SEN for adulthood and the transition from children's' to adult services. We work with PaCC, the Parent Carers' Council to make sure parents have a voice on the Learning Disability Partnership Board and other strategic groups.

We also try to make sure parents have the information they need by running Parents of Teens information sessions and producing a parent handbook, Through the Next Maze.

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About Amaze

Amaze is an independent charity that offers information, advice and support to parents and carers of children with special needs. We aim to help parents work in partnership with the professionals and services that are involved with their child.

The Preparing for Adulthood parent support project is only one of the ways Amaze supports parent carers. We also offer:

- Helpline
- Publications and website
- Help with making claims for DLA/PIP
- Workshops and training
- The Compass leisure discount card

Helpline: 01273 772289

Open Monday to Thursday, 9.30am to 12 noon
and in term time only Tuesday 12 to 5pm and
Thursday 5.30 to 8pm.

Or email helpline@amazebrighton.org.uk

Amaze

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Email: info@amazebrighton.org.uk
Web: www.amazebrighton.org.uk



Impartial • Practical • Confidential

Preparing for Adulthood Parent Support

For parents of young people in Brighton & Hove with special educational needs

What is the Preparing for Adulthood parent support project?

Planning for the future for any young person is tricky, but things can be even more complicated when you have a child with disabilities or special needs. That's why Amaze is offering parents of teens one to one help and advice through the Preparing for Adulthood project.

Having a Preparing for Adulthood parent supporter is a bit like having a knowledgeable friend. They're not there to take over or boss you about. They'll ask you what you need help with and give you impartial advice, and the information and support you need to make decisions for yourself. This will complement the support you should already be getting from your school and Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (LDD) Adviser.



Volunteers can help in lots of ways, including:

- Helping you think which college will be best for your child and what support they will need when they get there
- Attending meetings at college with you
- Supporting you and your child in getting your views across clearly
- Finding out what financial support is available
- Making the most of local services
- Thinking about what your child can do outside college both for fun and to build their independence
- Looking at volunteering or work options
- Thinking about what happens when your child leaves college

Amaze volunteers work alongside parents who want to help their child make the best move they can towards adulthood. They will try to help you get the best for your teenager. All our volunteers have a particular knowledge or interest in transition, or are parents themselves who have experienced what you're going through.

“My volunteer seemed to know how I felt and helped us iron out the glitches with college.”

More about how it works

Your parental supporter may be a member of staff or a volunteer. All of the team undergo a DBS (formerly CRB) check, complete an initial training course and attend regular supervision and training with the Transition Development Worker who coordinates this service.

They will provide you with impartial advice and they'll keep information about you and your family confidential. They'll be reliable in making and keeping appointments with you and, of course, we expect you to be reliable too.

You might want your child to be involved in meetings with your volunteer as well, but you'll need to be there. Volunteers can't work with teenagers on their own.

“It's great to know there is someone in my corner.”

