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Out of Amaze - July 2021



Welcome to our summer e-newsletter

We've got a jam-packed edition of our newsletter to see you through the summer and beyond. There are last minute ideas on childcare options and activities, as well as details of where to go for support if you are struggling during the holidays. You can also win one of three fantastic prizes by completing our short survey about your SEND information needs (just scroll to the bottom for details).

For parents of children with an EHC plan, we have a SENDIASS guide to making the most of annual reviews, including a link to a new video all about it.

And you can book Amaze workshops or find out about our regular groups for parent carers and young people over the summer, and how to get involved.

Finally, learn about our new young people's voice group and our work with local wellbeing teams.

Rachel Travers, CEO of Amaze



Register as a parent carer with Amaze!

We know you get this newsletter but are you also registered as a parent carer with Amaze? If your child or young person has a Compass Card, you will be registered already. If not, register now! It only takes a few minutes and there are lots of benefits to doing so...

[Find out more >](#)

Sorted for summer



Planning the holidays

Still not got the summer holidays sorted? Us neither, but don't panic! We've put together details of possible **play schemes, support groups, leisure opportunities** and more to help get you through the six or so weeks. And we tell you where to go to find [more ideas for planning your summer.](#)



Compass offers are back!

Covid-19 has had a huge impact on leisure but we're delighted to have most of our **Compass Card** offers back up and running. You can get discounts at over 230 venues across Brighton & Hove and Sussex. Just check out our [offers page](#) or download the [Compass Card App](#) to check offers while you're on the go.

Support for you and your child

We know that **school holidays** can be a really stressful time for some of our families, particularly as the usual school-based support is not available. Here's **advice** on [where to go if you are struggling](#) and need some help for yourself or your child over the summer.



SENDIASS explains: How to make the most of your child's annual review



Does your child have an **Education, Health and Care plan**? Do you feel you get the best from their annual review each year? Our SENDIASS team tells you what you need to know to make sure you are getting the most from the annual review process. The article also includes a link to a new SENDIASS Zoom video about annual reviews.

[Read about annual reviews >](#)

Amaze peer support groups



For young people...

We are running a packed schedule of Amazing Futures groups **for young people aged 14 to 25 with SEND** this summer. Our Brighton & Hove groups will meet indoors in well ventilated rooms or for fun and games in local parks. We also have some workshops planned, and an LGBTQ+ Pride Picnic.

[Join our groups >](#)



And for parent carers

Our Brighton & Hove **Face 2 Face groups** for parent carers have a couple of meet ups via Zoom planned over the summer (see our Eventbrite listing for [dates](#)) and will be keeping in touch via WhatsApp. We are also on the look out for **new volunteer befrienders** for families in East Sussex, with training starting in the autumn. Could it be you?

[Find out more >](#)



Brighton & Hove Parent Carers' Council update

In this issue, the Parent Carers' Council tells us about [online activities, groups and pampering sessions](#) held by PaCC partners to boost SEND families' wellbeing. They also tell us about their involvement in a new local initiative to identify and support ['hidden children'](#) who are not able to be in school full-time.

[Read PaCC update >](#)

Latest SEND news



PaCC and Amaze join up with BHISS

Amaze and Brighton & Hove Parent Carers' Council (PaCC) have **joined forces** with our local mental health and wellbeing teams to offer extra support to families of



Carousel TV launches Saturday

This **Saturday 3 July at 7pm** sees the launch of Carousel TV, a fresh and unfiltered TV show made by and for learning disabled people, show-casing their creative talent.



Your Choice, Your Voice

Your Choice, Your Voice is a **new group** set up by some of the **young people** from our Amazing Futures peer support project. The group will give young people more responsibility

children with SEND, via a series of workshops and our existing groups.

[Find out more >](#)

Music, comedy, poems, reports, all filmed around Brighton. Watch on Freeview channel 7, Virgin channel 159 or online.

[Watch Carousel TV >](#)

and a voice within Amaze to shape the offers and opportunities for young people.

[Read more >](#)

FREE workshops on claiming DLA & PIP

Amaze is running a series of FREE Zoom workshops about claiming disability benefits over the summer. These DLA and PIP workshops are led by Lizzie Batten MBE, who manages Amaze's benefits service. She will give you the tools you need to make a successful claim. Visit our [Eventbrite page](#) to see all Amaze's workshops and book a place.



WIN family bus tickets, Harry Potter and Gruffalo goodies - just tell us what you think of our SEND information

Want to be in with a chance of **winning** a stash of Harry Potter or Julia Donaldson goodies, or an open top bus tour of Brighton & Hove for the whole family? All you need to do is complete this **short survey telling us what you think of our information about SEND** and the ways we communicate with you. Though it will only take you 7 minutes, your views will help shape our information work for the next three years. Don't forget to leave your email on the form and we'll announce the winner before the school holidays.

[Take our survey >](#)

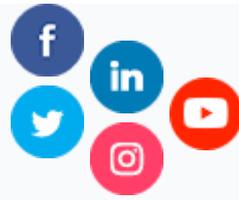
Enjoyed this newsletter?

If the newsletter has been a good read, and you can afford to give back, please make a donation and 'pay it forward' so we can help another family. Thank you.

Donate online: www.justgiving.com/amaze/donate

Donate by text: To donate £5, please text AMAZE 5 to 70085 (texts cost £5 + one standard rate message).

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This is the Brighton & Hove version of our newsletter. If you would prefer to receive the East Sussex version, please email charlotte@amazesussex.org.uk

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