



PARENTS CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTERS

Welcome to our winter e-newsletter

We're gearing up for the festive season here at Amaze. Check out our Amazing Gifts campaign or buy some of our gorgeous festive cards designed by young people from Amazing Futures. Also in this issue, you can book onto one of our SENDIASS workshops taking place in the new year, get tips on talking to young people about money, and hear about our new in-person Face 2 Face groups for parent carers in Hastings and Eastbourne. We hope you have a brilliant festive season and get to snatch a little bit of peace and joy!



Amazing Gifts Campaign

This December, we are excited to launch the Amazing Gifts campaign designed by young people with additional needs who attend the **Amazing Futures** project. The aim of the campaign is to raise funds for the project so that it can continue to run. We urgently need to raise **£20,000** to support more young people with additional needs who have been significantly affected by the pandemic.

[Give an Amazing Gift and donate now >](#)

LATEST NEWS



Festive cards and fundraising events

Young people from Amazing Futures have also designed some beautiful **festive cards** to raise further funds. Cards are **£7 for a pack of 8** and you can [order your cards online](#) here. You can also support Amaze by coming along to see Arthur Ward's Crazy Rhythm Orchestra (at a variety of locations both indoor and outdoor) or visiting our stall at the Brighton Xmas Market on 12 December. Get full details of all [Amaze's festive fundraising events](#).



NEW: East Sussex Local Offer

The new online **East Sussex Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Information Hub** (aka Local Offer) launched last week. ESPCF and Amaze were involved in the steering group for the project (but not in any of the content or build) so we're really looking forward to seeing the new website in action. It's in a live testing and refining phase for the next two months and they want to know what you think.

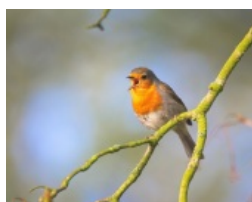
[Visit the SEND Info Hub >](#)



NEW: Face 2 Face East Sussex launches in person groups

Face 2 Face has some extra funding to start two new parent groups in East Sussex: one in **Hastings** and the other in **Eastbourne**. They will be hosted by Face 2 Face and will take place once a month in each town. Face 2 Face is Amaze's **peer support** project for parent carers in Sussex.

[Find out more >](#)



Amaze's winter round up

Amaze CEO, **Rachel Travers**, summarises all the work we have been doing over the last few months, locally and nationally, together with our local parent carer forums, to shape and improve the services and support available for children and young people with SEND and their families.

[Amaze latest >](#)



SENDIASS WORKSHOPS: Book now!

We've got a whole host of Amaze workshops about SEND issues coming up in the new year, delivered by our brilliant SENDIASS and DLA/PIP teams, many of whom are parent carers themselves. The workshops are delivered via Zoom and are all completely FREE to attend! Click on the links to book via Eventbrite.

- Tues 11 Jan - [EHC Needs Assessment](#)
- Fri 14 Jan - [How to claim DLA](#)
- Weds 19 Jan - [Annual Reviews](#)
- Tues 25 Jan - [How to claim PIP](#)
- Tues 1 Feb - [Preparation for Adulthood](#)
- Thurs 17 Feb - [SEN Support](#)

[Visit Eventbrite for all our upcoming events >](#)



Getting SENDIASS help if you don't speak English

If you'd like help from Amaze but you can't speak to us in English, you can contact [Sussex Interpreting Services](#) for help with getting in touch. They will make contact with us and tell us about the kind of support you need. We've also translated our leaflet into these additional languages: Arabic, Bengali, Farsi, French, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish and Turkish.

[Download leaflets >](#)



Helping young people understand more about money

Over the festive season, some of our young people may be lucky enough to receive money from relatives. It's the perfect time to start talking to them about **money and how to make it work** for them. We've put together some **tips** to help you help your young person with additional needs understand more about money.

[Read more >](#)



SENDIASS advice line over Xmas

The SENDIASS advice line will close for Christmas at 1pm on **Thursday 23 December** and will reopen on **Tuesday 4 January**. You will still be able to leave a voice mail and email messages that we'll respond to after the holiday Season's Greetings from the SENDIASS team.

YOUNG PEOPLE

Amazing Futures young people get creative with fundraising

Volunteer peer supporter Bryony tells us about what Amaze's youth voice group in East Sussex has been up to recently, including getting stuck into shaping our Amazing Gifts fundraising campaign.

[Read Bryony's update >](#)



Neon Disco for 14 to 25s with SEND

We are pleased to invite young people aged 14 to 25, with and without SEND, to join us on **Friday 25 February 2022** for a Neon Disco in Eastbourne. Tickets cost £7 per person and include a glowstick and optional festival face paint. There's a non-alcoholic paid bar, and a parent or carer waiting area with tea and coffee.

[Book your tickets >](#)

If you're aged 14 to 25 with SEND, and live in Brighton & Hove or East Sussex, learn more about [Amazing Futures groups for young people](#)



i-go bus discount gets going

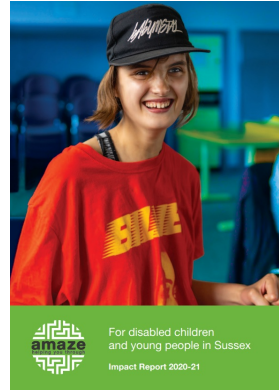
Brighton & Hove Buses are now offering the same **fare discounts** to 18-25 year olds with an East Sussex i-go card as they do for those with an Amaze Compass Card. It's the same as a student fare (even if they are not studying) and is about a third off standard prices.

[Find out more >](#)

Our Amazing impact

Would you like to know more about the work we do and the impact it has on the lives of the families we work with? Our latest **Amaze Impact Report** tells you all the things we achieved in 2020/21. It's also stuffed with lovely pics of some of the young people from our Amazing Futures groups and local SEND families

[Read our Impact Report >](#)



East Sussex Parent Carer Forum



ESPCF update

It's been a packed few months for East Sussex Parent Carer Forum. Parent carers have been sharing their knowledge and expertise across a range of issues, including **key mental health projects, home to school transport, assessment and planning, and online info about schools**. We've also got news on an intro meeting with the **new Director of Children's Services** at East Sussex, a chance to feedback on the local authority's new info hub website, and our plans to (hopefully) hit the road in 2022.

If you want to find out what we've been doing even more easily, see our short [update video from ESPCF Chair](#), Holly Riley-Saxby

[ESPCF's latest newsletter >](#)

Staying Well this Winter

Amaze is working alongside the three other carers organisations in Sussex to support all local carers to Stay Well This Winter.

[Find out more >](#)



Help us to help all unpaid carers

STAY WELL THIS WINTER



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

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