

[View in browser](#)



[PARENTS](#)

[CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE](#)

[SUPPORTERS](#)

Amaze newsletter - February 2022



Welcome to our February newsletter

We're back in your inboxes, bringing you the latest in Amaze news, services and other information we hope you'll find helpful. We've got a great article about helping to get your child into school, as well as a video about getting the right SEN support once they're there. Plus you can book onto any of our free SENDIASS workshops.

We tell you more about work to improve mental health and wellbeing provision across Sussex, and about what PaCC has been up to recently. If you'd like to find out more about Amaze's work, you can read my [February round-up](#). We're also asking for your help with a vaccination survey, for anyone who has wanted a vaccination but not been able to have one due to disability or additional needs. Finally, we introduce you to some of the amazing young people who are working for us right now. Enjoy!

Rachel Travers, CEO, Amaze

LATEST NEWS



Foundations for our Future

Work continues on the Sussex-wide Foundations for our Future programme which seeks to improve **children and young people's mental health services**. It has identified 20 recommendations intended to drive forward much-needed change, and Amaze and the three Sussex parent carer forums are involved in shaping how these recommendations are implemented. Young people from our Amazing Futures project are involved too.

[Read more >](#)



Tell us about your barriers to vaccination

We want to find out more about parent carers who want a **Covid-19 vaccination** (for themselves or a family member), but haven't had one due to disability or SEND. All completed **surveys** will be entered into a **prize draw** for a gift voucher. We appreciate that not everyone wants a vaccination and we'll do a further survey for these families too. A third survey will be for people who did get vaccinated, to tell us what worked well or not.

[Take the survey >](#)

SENDIASS ADVICE



TIPS: My child won't go to school - what can I do?

Struggles with **school attendance** have always been an issue for children with additional needs. Our SENDIASS team has put together a useful list of dos and don'ts for parent carers trying to manage this tricky issue.

[Read more >](#)



VIDEO: Making the most of SEN support in school

Want to know more about getting the right SEN support for your child in school or college? Our SENDIASS SEN support **workshop** is now available on YouTube for you to watch at your own pace. Or you can register to do the workshop live with other parents below.

[Watch the video >](#)



Be a SENDIASS volunteer

Are you interested in supporting other families with children with SEN and disabilities? Consider becoming a SENDIASS Volunteer. We offer **training and supervision**, and in return we ask that you give us a few (daytime) hours each month to help support other families.

[Find out more >](#)

FREE AMAZE WORKSHOPS



SEN support in school

This free SENDIASS Zoom workshop is for parents who are worried about the progress their child is making at school (where the child doesn't have an EHC plan). The session takes place on **Thurs 24 Feb** from 10.30am to 12 noon.

[Book now >](#)



How to claim DLA

This free workshop led by Lizzie Batten will help you identify whether your child is likely to get Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and help you make a strong claim. The workshop takes place on **Weds 2 March** from 10.30am to 12 noon.

[Book now >](#)



Preparing for adulthood

This free SENDIASS Zoom workshop is for parent carers of young people with SEND in Year 9 and above with an EHC plan. On **Thurs 3 March** from 10.30am to 12.30pm, it covers health, education, employment, housing and more.

[Book now >](#)

For a full list of Amaze workshops, visit our [Eventbrite](#) page

YOUNG PEOPLE



Meet the Amaze Kickstarters...

Our newest recruits Mia and Charlotte share their experience of joining Amaze through the Kickstart scheme for unemployed young people. We offer them useful learning and development opportunities, and benefit from their skills, knowledge and abilities in return.

[Read more about Mia and Charlotte](#)

...and find out what Jade did next

Meanwhile, our ex-intern Jade has got in touch with an update on what she's been up to since she completed her paid internship for Amazing Futures in Brighton & Hove. [Read more about Jade's journey](#)



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](#).



No change to Compass Card Brighton & Hove

Many of you will have heard that from 1 April, Amaze will no longer be managing the Compass Disability Register for West Sussex. We're pleased to remind you that the Compass Card Brighton & Hove is unaffected and the card will still give you access to a whole range of offers, freebies and discounts across the county. To find out more visit compasscard.org.uk



PaCC round-up - February 2022

In the latest PaCC round up, find out about their meeting to discuss social care priorities, their work on the quality assurance framework for EHCPs, and their coffee mornings targeting social emotional and mental health. You can also find out about a new group launching for parent carers with additional needs themselves, and read a profile of PaCC rep, Ali Davis.

[Read PaCC's round-up >](#)

Huge thanks to The Grand

Amaze is so grateful for the overwhelming support from our friends at **The Grand Hotel** for donating **£16,250**, generously raised by staff and customers over the festive season. This amazing donation will go to support our Brighton Face 2 Face service which offers emotional support to parent carers going through challenging times. If you work for an organisation or business that could support Amaze, email nickyb@amazesussex.org.uk.



[Support Amaze >](#)

Help us to help all unpaid carers

STAY WELL THIS WINTER



[Click here for tips and advice to help you get through the rest of 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 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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