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PARENTS

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

SUPPORTERS

Out of Amaze - May 2022



Welcome to our May e-newsletter

This issue features new advice on managing the transition to secondary school, getting help with the cost of living crisis and Care, Education and Treatment Reviews (CETRs). You can also read our views on the government's recent SEND Green Paper and find out how we've been working with parent carers to set priorities for our information work this year. Plus, get the latest info from our services, book onto free workshops and catch up with East Sussex Parent Carers Forum (ESPCF).

Finally, now's the perfect time to apply for (or renew) your i-go Card, so you can make use of all those lovely leisure discounts over the summer holidays.

Latest news



You said, we did: parent carer info needs survey

Last year, we asked you about whether and how you use our **SEND information**, if you value it, and how we could do better. We were so grateful for your responses, and they've been really useful as we work to provide the best service we can.

Learn [how your views are shaping our information](#) about SEND for parent carers.



A fond farewell to Gillian and Nicky

We are very sad to say goodbye to longstanding Amaze employees, **Nicky Bagilhole** and **Gillian Kitchener** this month. Nicky, our Fundraising Manager for 12 years, moves onto a new role supporting young people to get volunteering opportunities. Gillian leaves our SENDIASS advice and casework team to devote more time to her caring responsibilities. They both brought immense skill, experience and heart to their roles and we'll miss them very much.



New East Sussex neurodevelopmental pathway family service coming soon

Amaze is delighted to share the news that the East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has commissioned us to provide a service to offer more support for families whose children are on the neurodevelopmental pathway (NDP) for conditions including **autism and ADHD**, both before and after diagnosis.

This will initially be a **one year pilot**, which we're developing in partnership with ESPCF.

[Learn more >](#)

SENDIASS advice



CETRs and the Dynamic Support Register explained

If your child has learning disabilities or autism and has difficulties with "**behaviour that challenges**", you may have come across references to **Care Education and Treatment Reviews (CETRs)** and be wondering what they are and how they work. Our SENDIASS team explains all:

[Read our guide >](#)



SENDIASS advice: the transition to secondary school

If the **move to secondary school** is coming up soon for your child, now's a good time to start thinking ahead.

There are things you can do now, and once they start, to make your child's **transition** to their next school as smooth as possible.

[Find out more >](#)



Support with the rising cost of living

With the rising **cost of living**, we know many of you will be struggling. Increases in the prices of utilities, fuel, and food have stretched already-tight budgets to breaking point. Now's a good time to check you're getting every bit of help you can. Read about **benefits, grants and funds** you could be eligible for, and more.

[Read more >](#)



SEND Review

The government's new **SEND Green Paper** was published on 29 March. Read about the proposals, our key concerns and how we plan to respond. You can find out how to respond as an individual too.

[Learn more >](#)



Get ready for summer with the i-go card

Have you got your **i-go card** yet? If not, now's a great time to sign up, so you're ready for the summer.

Some of the **latest discounts and offers** include: 10% off in-store at 7Ply Skate Store, Eastbourne; £2 discount on adult and youth classes with Parable Dance; 10% off food and hot drinks in the Walled Garden Community Cafe at Tilgate Nature Centre PLUS free entry for one carer; 10% discount and carer pays £2.50 at Paradox Place, House of Illusions in Brighton; 10% off at Worthing Cinema.

The i-go card is for 0-25 year olds with additional needs that have a significant impact on their daily life and who live or go to school in East Sussex.

[Learn more and apply >](#)

Young people



New guide to mental health for peer supporters

Our Amazing Futures interns in East Sussex have created a brilliant **guide to mental health** for the young people who volunteer as peer supporters with the project.



Currently recruiting for peer support volunteers

Amazing Futures is recruiting more young people to join our team of **volunteer peer supporters**. If you are aged **18+** with or without special educational needs or

And even if you aren't a volunteer or a young person, it's a **great resource** for anyone wanting to know more about supporting young people's mental health.

[Read more >](#)

disabilities and would like to find out more, please call/email Claire for a chat.

Free training provided - next training sessions will run in June and July. Get in touch for dates and times.

[Learn more and get in touch >](#)



Spotlight on Kacey - our Kickstarter Advice Line Assistant

You may have seen our previous blog post about staff members Mia and Charlotte who joined Amaze in roles funded by the **Kickstart government scheme** for unemployed young people. Now it's Kacey's turn! They've been working as our Kickstarter SENDIASS Advice Line Assistant for the last four months.

[Read more >](#)



East Sussex Parent Carer Forum latest news

Loads to get your teeth into in East Sussex Parent Carer Forum's spring update: powerful **engagement sessions** with parents & carers on what needs to change in SEND provision; ideas on how schools could transform the educational experience of SEND children; new funding for neurodevelopmental support; key meetings on **post-16 support**; and a news round-up including help with rising energy costs

[Read ESPCF update >](#)

SENDIASS workshops



Preparation 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 **Mon 23 May** or **Thurs 16 June** from 10.30am to 12.30pm, it covers health, education, employment, housing and more.

[Book now](#)



SEN support in school

A free workshop 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 **Mon 4 July** from 10.30am to 12 noon.

[Book now](#)



EHC needs assessments

Parent carers who are going through the EHC needs assessment process (or are considering requesting an assessment for their child) should check out this free Zoom workshop on **Tues 7 June** from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

[Book now](#)

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



Cuppa, cake and chat

Our free cuppa, cake and chat groups for parent carers meet monthly in Eastbourne and Hastings. Join us for a relaxed chat over a cuppa and/or some cake! The [next meeting in Eastbourne](#) is on **Weds 8 June**, and the [next meeting in Hastings](#) is on **Weds 15 June**



Mayor of Eastbourne partnership

Sincere thanks to The Worshipful the Mayor of Eastbourne, **Councillor Pat Rodohan** and his dedicated team, who have worked tirelessly to raise funds to support Amaze through a year's partnership.

Young people with SEND from our **Amazing Futures Project in Eastbourne** have gained valuable skills through the partnership with the Mayor. They've taken part in a sponsored walk, volunteered at several events and even organised a Neon Disco to raise funds. Thanks you to anyone who contributed to their [Amazing Gifts campaign!](#)

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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