



[Parents](#)

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## Out of Amaze - July 2025



## Welcome to our July newsletter

With the school holidays just starting, this short newsletter tells you about services and support over the summer break, as well as groups, workshops, fun stuff and more! We start with a short statement about potential SEND reforms.



### Worried about SEND reforms?

Amaze CEO, Sally Polanski, shares  
Amaze's perspective

“Media coverage on potential SEND reforms, and what impact they might have, has been ramping up in recent weeks. We know this uncertainty is really worrying and it adds to the pressure of raising a child or young person with additional needs.

“We expect more concrete news about the reforms to come in the autumn. Meanwhile, Amaze and the local parent carer forums, ESPCF and PaCC, are working behind the scenes to share and represent your experiences to policy makers. We have written to MPs, PaCC joined a meeting with Education Minister, Bridget Phillipson, this week and we are involved in campaigns led by the Disabled Children’s Partnership and others to voice concerns that the SEND legal framework must not be diluted.

“Locally, we will need to work through any changes that emerge with our local authorities, health and other partners. We will keep you informed as soon as things become clear. Supporting each other through change will be more important than ever.”



## Amaze advice over the summer

Our Amaze advice services run right through the summer:

- [SENDIASS advice line](#)
- [DLA & PIP advice service](#)
- [ND Family Support Service](#)
- [Amazing Futures careers advice](#)

Due to staff holidays, we may be a bit slower to respond than usual, but in the meantime you can get answers to most of your queries in

the information and advice pages of the [Amaze website](#).

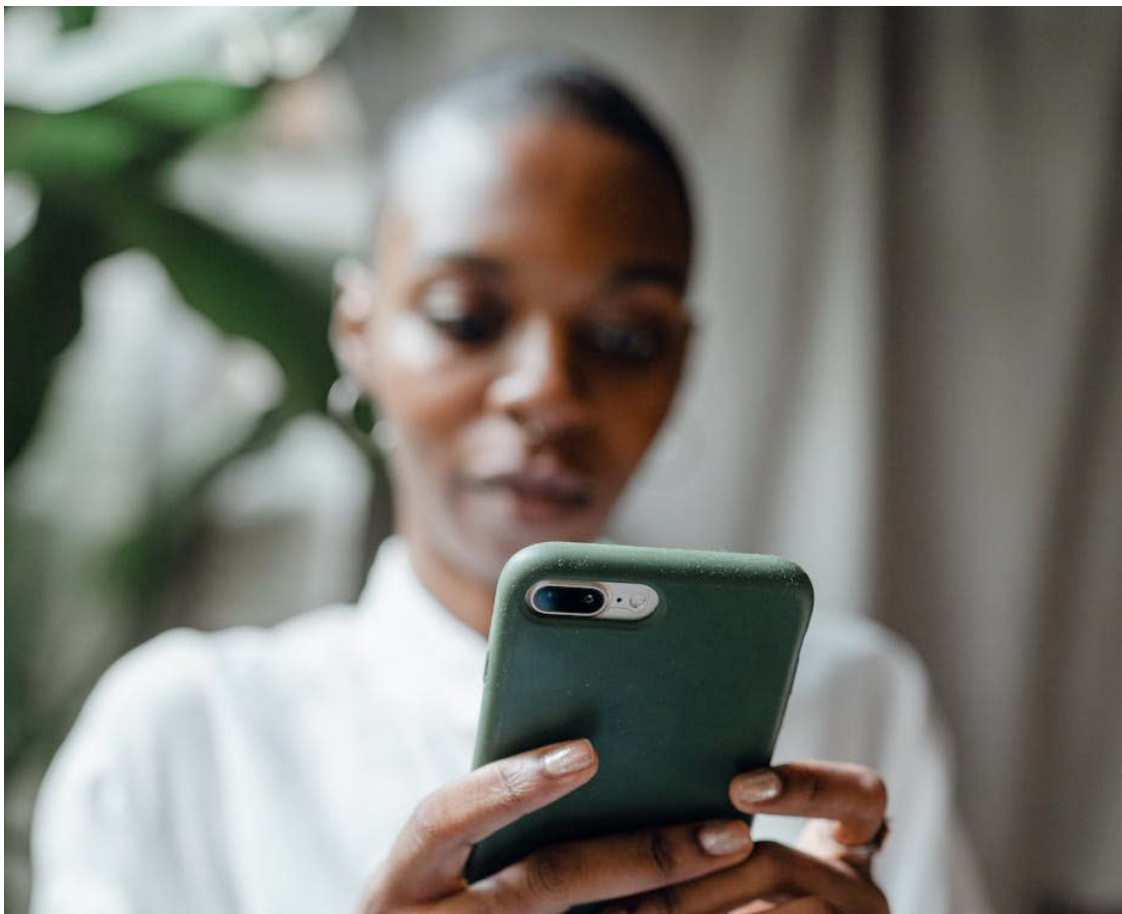
**Get advice >**



## Support with your mental health and wellbeing

If you or your child or young person are struggling to cope over the summer, there are people that can help. Check out our guide to [Getting support over the summer](#). We tell you where to turn in a crisis and where to get ongoing advice and support.

**Get support >**



## Connecting with other parent carers

Almost all our in-person groups take a break over the summer, except for the following:

- [Online evening chat on Mon 21 July, 6.30 to 8pm](#)
- [Dads group Brighton & Hove on Thurs 31 July, 7.30 to 10pm](#)
- [Dads group East Sussex on Mon 4 August, 7 to 9pm](#)
- [Parents Like Us Hove, for parents of 16-25s, Tues 5 August, 9 to 11am.](#)

If your usual group is not meeting, you can still keep in touch via our WhatsApp groups or our [private Facebook group](#). Visit our website Events page to see the [parent group schedule for autumn](#).

If we have already matched you with a befriender, support will continue over the summer. New matches will restart in September. Read more about [Parent groups and befriending](#)





## Make the most of your Compass Card!

Need help to fill those long summer days without emptying your pockets? The Compass Card provides tons of discounts on everything from adventure parks to zoos, with swimming, soft play, bowling and more in between. See the [Compass Card offer's page](#) on our website or free Compass Card app.

Or find out [how to apply for a Compass Card](#). The card is for children and young people in Brighton & Hove aged 0-25 who have a disability or additional need that has a big impact on their daily life.

**Find Compass offers >**



## FREE Family Fun Day in Portslade

11am – 3pm on Weds 27 August 2025

Portslade Village Centre, 3 Courthope Close, Brighton BN41 2LZ

There are still tickets available for our **FREE Family Fun Day** from **Amaze Parent Groups & Befriending** and **Compass Card** in Portslade!

Join us on Wednesday 27 August, 11am-3pm, at Portslade Village Centre for a heap of fun activities and the chance to meet Peppa Pig! We have Animazing animal encounters, Magic Time with Tony Charles, Music with Mike and World of Wheels for kids who love anything wheely. Plus parents can enjoy free hand massages from Zen Essence.

[Book Fun Day tickets >](#)



## Free funded places Amazing Futures Volunteering Day




Funded by Concordia UK




 **Friday 25th July**

 **10:30am - 3:30pm**

 **Rock Farm, Steyning**



-  Lovely Farm Lunch
-  Treasure hunt in Brighton
-  Volunteering activities

-  Pizza cooking sessions
-  Berry picking
-  Nature walk

### First come, first Served!

Scan the QR code or email  
[nicky.bagilhole@concordia.org.uk](mailto:nicky.bagilhole@concordia.org.uk) to register  
your interest



## Rock Farm Volunteering Day

**Friday 25 July at Rock Farm, The Hollow, Washington, West Sussex RH20 3DA**

Amazing Futures is putting on a fantastic fully-funded volunteering day at Rock Farm in West Sussex this summer, run by Concordia. On 25 July, young people aged 14-25 will get the chance to do a range of activities including berry picking, tree care, weeding, and looking after wildlife.

Lunch will be provided and travel will be via minibus from Community Base in Brighton. Young people from East Sussex will need to make their own way to Brighton for the minibus.



Use the button below to book. Please note: your young person must already be registered with Amazing Futures to attend.

If you have any questions about Amazing Futures, please email the Amazing Futures team at [AFBrighton@AmazeSussex.org.uk](mailto:AFBrighton@AmazeSussex.org.uk).

[Book Rock Farm Volunteer Day >](#)



## Strictly Come Dancing for Amaze

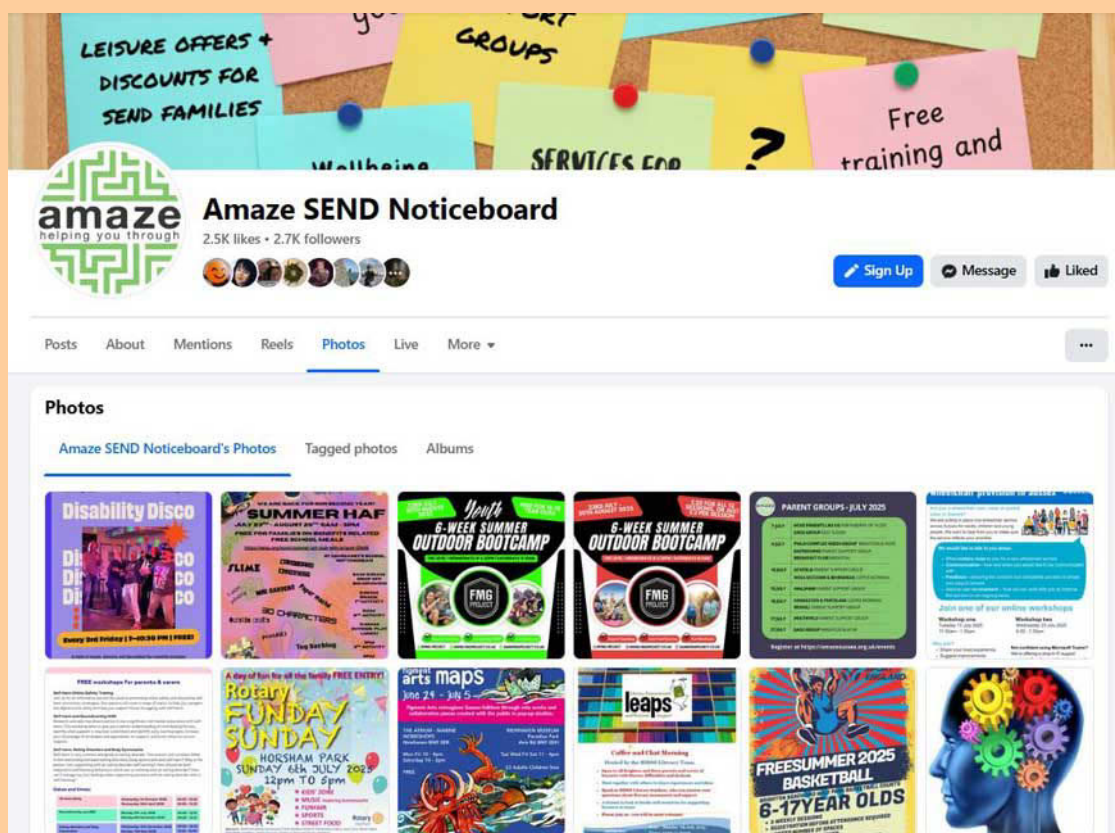
**Friday 10 October at the All Saints Centre, Lewes**

Dust off your dancing shoes and come dancing for Amaze! We are thrilled to be offering a night of Strictly Come Dancing magic in Lewes this autumn, thanks to the **Les Paul Big Band!**

Join us at the **All Saints Centre in Lewes** for an unforgettable evening of music, glamour and dancing on Friday 10 October, 7pm-11.30pm. Tickets are £20 per person, and we encourage you to dress to impress Strictly-style!



[Book Strictly tickets >](#)



## More offers, events and activities...

Want to hear about stuff that you or your kids might enjoy? Or services that can help your family, other than Amaze? Follow our **SEND noticeboard on Facebook**. It's the place where we share all the other events, activities and services that are inclusive or SEND-specific across Brighton & Hove and East Sussex (and some of our own). Keep in the loop!

[Follow the SEND noticeboard >](#)

### 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.

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