



Supporting and working with community groups and clubs to promote a deeper understanding of local health and care needs and experiences

Spotlight on Amaze



You may have heard of the Compass Card, the leisure discount card for children and young people up to the age of 25 years living or going to school in West Sussex. But are you aware of the benefits for your child or young person of having a Compass Card?

Having the Compass Card gives your child or young person access to hundreds of discounts and offers across West Sussex and Brighton & Hove on all things leisure related. You can choose to have a combined Compass and Library card, and there are loads of great library benefits to be had.

Being on the 'Compass' means that your child or young person will be part of the Disability Register for West Sussex. This register is held by Amaze, an independent charity based in Brighton.

But why is it important for your child or young person to be on the Disability Register: With the continued restrictions and the continued restrictions arising from the pandemic there is a growing understanding that children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) have become very isolated.

With tough budget decisions being made by local authorities, it is essential that you and your child or young person's voice is counted. All children and young people with SEND needs should be represented in order for the local authorities to have a true understanding of the needs of the community. If local authorities do not know the needs of the SEND community then budget cuts may be made in areas that will have a detrimental effect on the well-being of your child or young person.

What does being on the Disability Register provide?

You will become part of the 'Compass Community'. With an active Facebook page and fortnightly e-Newsletters; to keep you up to date with leisure ideas, opportunities and provide signposting to events, activities and information that will be useful to you, your child or young person and your family.

Access to hundreds of discounted leisure opportunities across West Sussex and Brighton & Hove. We know coming out of COVID-19 is scary and taking your child or young person to a leisure venue may not be high on your priority list right now, which is why Amaze has lots of outdoor Compass Card discounts for you to enjoy.

So how do I join and does it cost anything:

Registering on the Compass is super simple and it's FREE! If your child or young person receives DLA or PIP or has an Education Health Care Plan, then they are automatically eligible. You can register online, just by clicking here: <https://www.registercompasscard.org.uk/> The form has been designed as simply as possible we are told it should only take about 20 minutes to complete, and you do not need to send in any additional documentation. If you need help with the form or have any questions, email compass@amazesussex.org.uk or leave a message on 0300 123 9186.

In these very uncertain times, we believe it is now more important than ever to ensure your child or young person's voice is heard, that their additional needs or disabilities are acknowledged, recognised and taken into account when it comes to the future planning of services. Now's the time to get your voice counted, join a supportive community, and have the opportunity to access lots of family fun with some great discounts - ALL FOR FREE!

Join Amaze on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/AmazeCompassCard>

Website: www.compasscard.org.uk

Email at: info@compasscard.org.uk

All of the insight we collect from people across West Sussex is collated and anonymised and forms part of the evidence that Healthwatch gather to identify common themes around what works and what could be improved for local people. **This insight is used to influence service development and can feed into**

- West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board
- HASC - Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee
- WSCC Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Safeguarding Adult Board
- Sussex Health and Care Partnership workstreams (the NHS Integrated Care System for Sussex).

Healthwatch West Sussex also share reports with the Care Quality Commission (who are responsible for the registration and inspection of services which deliver regulated activities) and to Healthwatch England to form part of the national picture used to influence national developments, such as the NHS Long Term forward plan.

Not only do we collect the experiences of local people, but we can also provide free information and guidance just call: **0300 012 0122**. Email helpdesk@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk, Website www.healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk.

healthwatch
West Sussex

You can also follow our social media channels:
Facebook [@healthwatchwestsussex](https://www.facebook.com/healthwatchwestsussex) Twitter [@healthwatchws](https://twitter.com/healthwatchws)

If you are setting up or would like to share news of a similar project we would be interested to hear from you. Please contact Cheryl Berry, Community Partnership Lead, email: cheryl.berry@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk