You may have heard of the Compass Card, the leisure incentive card for children and young people up to the age of 25 living or going to school in West Sussex, but are you aware of the benefits of your child or young person being 'on the Compass' and 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.

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.

You can combine your Compass Card with a <u>Library Card</u> as well to enjoy some great Library benefits.

## Why is it important for your child or young person to be on the Disability Register?

Following lock-down and coming through the pandemic has left children and young people with SEND very isolated and, with tough budget decisions being made by local authorities, it is essential that your child or young person's voice is counted.

All children and young people with SEND should be represented in order for 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 other benefits will being on the Disability Register provide?

You will become part of the 'Compass Community'. With an active Facebook page and fortnightly E-Newsletters, we will 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 is scary and taking your child or young person to a leisure venue may not be high on the priority list right now, which is why we have 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.

The form is really simple, it will take you about 20 minutes to complete, and you do not need to send in any additional documentation.

So there you have it. Now, in these very uncertain times, is the time 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 service provision. 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!

Register for a Compass Card | Join in on Facebook | Email Compass Card

With very best wishes, Marie

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