



Hoodie Up for autism Schools

Fundraising Information Kit

30 April 2021



Thank you!

Thank you for being part of Hoodie Up to mark World Autism Acceptance Month. With your support, we can shape a brighter future for autistic people.

In this kit, you'll find all the information you need to organise a Hoodie Up event in your school during World Autism Acceptance Month. We are encouraging schools to hold a Hoodie Up event and wear their hoodie on Friday 30 April 2021.

Since 2019, individuals, schools and businesses across Victoria have showed their support for autistic people by putting their Hoodie Up. We're excited that once again in 2021, the community will Hoodie Up to raise funds and show its understanding, acceptance and support for autistic people.

Why hoodies? Some autistic people experience sensory sensitivities and can become overloaded by stimuli in their environment; wearing their hoodie up means they can block out bright lights and busy environments which helps calm them. By hosting a Hoodie Up event and putting our hoodies up, we're showing a little more understanding of how we can support and embrace autistic people and celebrate the diversity autism brings to our world.

Funds raised through Hoodie Up will help deliver vital support to autistic people and their families, including Amaze's work to create a more autism-friendly Victoria. We advocate to ensure the autism community's voices and needs are recognised in government policy and the media, break down stigma in the wider community through public education campaigns, and up-skill the wider world in how to support autistic people so they can fully participate in, and contribute to, our society.


We have also developed a special autism lesson plan for educators, designed with the national curriculum in mind, for students in Years 3-6. You can download this resource on the Hoodie Up website.

For more information you can contact our Autism Connect service. Autism Connect offers evidence-based information for autistic people seeking guidance around diagnosis and services, their families or friends, and anyone supporting an autistic adult or child in education, health settings or workplaces.

If you have any questions, on how to help support Hoodie Up please contact Amaze's Communication team on (03) 9657 1600 or email us at waad@amaze.org.au.

Sign up now to register your event by going to www.amaze.org.au/hoodie-up, or email us at waad@amaze.org.au with your workplace's details.

We look forward to celebrating with you in April 2021.



Fiona Sharkie
Amaze CEO



Host a Hoodie Up event in 6 easy steps

1. Register online

Head to www.amaze.org.au/hoodie-up and fill in the registration form to get your school signed up and start working on your personalised team fundraising page.

2. Choose a date

Hoodie Up officially takes place on 30 April and we hope you can join in then. If for some reason you can't, you can host a Hoodie Up event on any other day in April.

3. Spread the word and raise funds!

Download posters from our website – www.amaze.org.au/hoodie-up – and put them up around your school and in your school newsletter a few weeks before the event.

You can add photos and updates to your fundraising page. Send your personalised fundraising webpage out to your community and ask them to donate online to save time later.

Receipts are automatically generated for online donations. Direct donations over \$2 are tax-deductible for the donor.

4. Hoodie Up

Get everyone together at your specified location and time in your school and get them to put their hoodies up and show that they support autistic people. Take photos and post them on social media with the hashtag #HoodieUp

5. Take a pause

Take a moment to think about how your Hoodie Up will contribute to a more inclusive school culture, and the positive change that can bring to your community. You're helping to shape a better future for autism!

6. Donate your funds

Login into your fundraising dashboard and post an update to thank everyone involved and let everyone know how much you raised.



How Amaze can help!

We can provide:

- Resources and materials about autism
- Use of Hoodie Up posters to use for your fundraising event
- Tax receipts to donors
- A Letter of Authority to show that your event has our approval and is genuine
- A certificate of appreciation once your fundraiser has finished

Please note depending on the size and location of your event, the level of support we are able to provide will vary.

Contact the Hoodie Up team

For more information on hosting a Hoodie Up event, contact us:

Email: waad@amaze.org.au

Web: www.amaze.org.au/hoodie-up

Phone: 03 9657 1600

Unfortunately, we cannot provide:

- Funds or reimbursement for any expenses incurred
- Assistance in organising and/or marketing your event
- Staff to help coordinate or run the event
- Contact lists for you to use in promoting your event (due to privacy legislation)
- Applications for permits, licences or insurances – including public liability. These are the responsibility of the organiser.
- Prizes, auctions or raffle items

Banking in your funds

All donations are to be made electronically through your fundraising page with a debit or credit card. These funds are automatically transferred to Amaze.



Amaze: shaping the future for autism

Amaze aims to create an inclusive society that offers every autistic person the opportunity to meaningfully participate and contribute. We do this by building understanding and acceptance among educators, the government and the wider community.

Research shows that 98% of Australians have heard of autism, and 85% of Australians have personal contact with an autistic person, yet only 29% of Australians agree that they have a good understanding of how to support autistic people and only 4% of autistic people thought Australians knew how to support them. With your help Amaze can change this.

Formed in 1967 by a group of parents struggling to find resources to support their children, Amaze has grown to become the peak body for autism in Victoria.

Today we work to:

- Increase understanding, engagement and acceptance of autism by the wider community
- Influence positive systemic change through Governments and the media to improve attitudes and behaviours towards autistic people and their families
- Build the skills of private, public and community organisations to create more autism-friendly environments and build the capacity of autistic people and their families to advocate for their needs

We're making great progress and change in the community, but we need your support to continue to shape the future for autism. Hosting a Hoodie Up event is a fantastic way to start a conversation about autism in your school, show understanding of autistic people and raise vital funds to help build a more autism-friendly world.



Find out more about Amaze's work and how you can get involved at www.amaze.org.au We are already making great progress and change in the community but need your support to continue to shape the future for autism.

Your donation will help us support autistic people and their families in delivering much needed information to parents, families and professionals via forums, workshops and online training as well as inform government and educational policy to ensure an ongoing growth of understanding, engagement and acceptance of autism through sharing stories of autistic peoples individual lived experiences.