

**Starting school.**  
**As life changes**  
**for them, it does**  
**for you too...**



Get in touch for some impartial advice. Money Advice and Rights Team on 0141 577 8420 or email [mart@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:mart@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)

# We can help with claiming benefits

## Make sure you are getting everything you are entitled to.

Our Money Advice and Rights Team can provide impartial advice about benefits, budgeting or debt. They can help you understand what support you might be available to you as your child starts school.

School clothing grants, free school meals and education maintenance allowance are available in all our schools for eligible families.

The Culture and Leisure Trust offer free places on week long sports camps and sports activities for eligible families.

The Best Start Grant School Age Payment is a new £250 payment to help with the costs of preparing for school around the time a child might start Primary 1 for eligible families.

Depending on your income, you may be entitled to a council tax reduction so this is always worth checking.



For more information about eligibility criteria and to apply contact our confidential and impartial Money Advice and Rights Team on **0141 577 8420**.

[mart@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:mart@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk) | [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/money](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/money)

## Qualifying criteria for free clothing grants and/or school meals

Will I qualify?	Clothing Grant	School Meals
Employment and Support Allowance (Income related)	Yes	Yes
Income Support	Yes	Yes
Job Seekers Allowance (Income based)	Yes	Yes
Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit with a gross or projected annual household income of less than £16,105 for 2018/19 as assessed on your 2019/20 HM Revenue & Customs tax credits award letter (TC602)	Yes	Yes
Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit with a gross annual household income of less than £6,900 for 2018/19 as assessed on your 2019/20 HM Revenue & Customs tax credit award letter (TC602)	Yes	Yes
Child Tax Credit and/or Working Tax Credit with a gross annual income of below £16,105 but above £6,900 for year 2018/19 as assessed on your 2019/20 tax credit award letter from HM Revenues and Customs (TC602)	Yes	No
Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999	Yes	Yes
Housing benefit	Yes	No
Universal Credit - where your maximum monthly earned income from employment does not exceed £610	Yes	Yes

## ERCLT holiday camps

To qualify for a free place, children must attend an East Renfrewshire school and their household must be in receipt of Council Tax Benefit and/or Housing Benefit.



## Best Start Grant: What affects whether you can apply

If you're under 18, you do not need to be on any payments or benefits to apply for Best Start Grant or Best Start Foods.

If you're a parent over 18, you can apply whether you're in work or not, as long as you're getting one of these:

- Universal Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit
- Housing Benefit
- Income Support
- Pension Credit
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA).

You cannot get Best Start Grant or Best Start Foods if you only get Child Benefit. You must still be getting one of the benefits or payments from this list to be able to get Best Start Grant or Best Start Foods.

# We can help with finding employment

**If you're looking to increase your income, we can help with training, interview techniques and finding the right job for you.**

We can provide support if you are considering new career options as your child starts school.

Work EastRen can help you to get ready for, find and keep work.

The team aim to help our local residents find the education, training or employment they are most suited for.

Adult Learning Services offer a range of learning opportunities for adults in East Renfrewshire. The courses can help with gaining new skills or qualifications, getting a new job, going to college or just helping with homework.



Contact Work East Ren:

0141 577 8438 | [worker@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:worker@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)