

# Educational benefits

## SECONDARY SCHOOL



**Get the  
benefits and  
assistance  
your family  
is entitled to**



Many families are not receiving all the financial assistance they should be as they don't know about the supports available or have been refused in the past. If you are on a low income you may be eligible for assistance even if you think you will not qualify or have never claimed before.

This includes help you may be able to get if you, or a family member, has a disability or long term health condition or if someone is an unpaid carer.

This booklet details a range of assistance available to families, so take a look over and if you would like some further information about the financial assistance that may be available to you, please contact us for free and confidential advice.

**Money Advice**



**& Rights Team**

**Contact us:**



**0141 577 8420**

**[mart@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:mart@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)**



# Free School Meals

## WHAT:

The current cost of a secondary school meal is £2.30 per day. If you qualify for free school meals you can save approximately £437 per year.

## WHO:

You can apply if your Child attends a school in East Renfrewshire and you receive a qualifying benefit:

- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Job Seekers Allowance**
- **Child Tax Credit only with a gross annual household income of less than £16,105 for 2020/2021**
- **Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit (with a gross annual household income of up to £7,500 for 2020/2021)**
- **Universal Credit (where your maximum monthly earned income from employment does not exceed £625)**
- **Support under part VI of the Immigration Asylum Act 1999**

## WHEN:

From S1 onward you must apply for Free School Meals. You should apply each school year or if your circumstances change during the school year and you meet the qualifying criteria.

Closing date for all applications is 31 May 2022.

## HOW:

Apply online at [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals) or contact East Renfrewshire Council to request a paper form.



# School Clothing Grant

## WHAT:

The School Clothing Grant is an annual payment of £150 towards the cost of essential school clothing for each child.

## WHEN:

From S1 onwards you can apply for a School Clothing Grant if eligible. Closing date for all applications is 31 May 2022.

## WHO:

You can apply if your child attends a school in East Renfrewshire and you receive a qualifying benefit. You can apply when your child starts each school year or if your circumstances change during the school year and you meet the qualifying criteria.

## HOW:

Apply online at [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals) or contact East Renfrewshire Council to request a paper form.

- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Job Seekers Allowance**
- **Child Tax Credit only with a gross annual household income of less than £16,105 for 2020/2021**
- **Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit (with a gross annual household income below £16,105 for 2020/2021)**
- **Universal Credit (where your maximum monthly earned income from employment does not exceed £625)**
- **Support under part VI of the Immigration Asylum Act 1999**
- **Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Reduction**



# Educational Maintenance Allowance

## WHAT:

Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a weekly payment of £30 to help support a student in education beyond the school leaving age of 16. It is £30 a week.

## WHEN:

If you apply before 30 September 2021, East Renfrewshire Council will backdate EMA to the start of the school year. If you apply after 30 September 2021, EMA will be paid from the date your application was received.

## WHO:

A young person aged 16-19 who attends an East Renfrewshire School for a minimum of 21 hours per week. The young person will qualify for an EMA for the 2021/22 school year if:

- **Their birthday is between 1 March 2002 and 28 February 2006**
- **They sign a learning agreement with their school**
- **Your household income is within the agreed government levels:**

Income	Dependant children	EMA amount per child
0 - £24,421	1	£30
0 - £26,884	2 +	£30

## HOW:

Download a form from [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/ema](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/ema) or call East Renfrewshire Council on 0141 577 3001 to request a paper form



# Young Carer Grant

## WHAT:

The Young Carer Grant is a yearly payment of £308.15 for young carers in Scotland.

## WHO:

- Aged 16, 17 or 18
- You must be caring for 1, 2 or 3 people for an average of 16 hours a week for at least the last 3 months
- The person or people you care for are getting certain benefits
- You're not being paid to care for someone you will use in your application as part of your job or as a volunteer
- You are not already getting Carers Allowance from the Department for Work and Pensions

To be able to get a Young Carer Grant, you must be 16, 17 or 18 years old. If you care for more than one person you can combine the hours of the people you care for to average 16 hours a week.

## HOW:

Apply online at

[www.mygov.scot/young-carer-grant](http://www.mygov.scot/young-carer-grant)

or by calling Social Security Scotland on 0800 182 2222.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All schools have free period products available for pupils and their families. All pupils can access these and take products home.

If you have any concerns about managing the cost of school attendance, please speak to your school's Equality Coordinator and they will be happy to offer support and advice.

## Money Advice



## & Rights Team

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