



## **BENEFITS AND SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES**

We can help you to understand what benefits and support are available for families and how to apply for them.

<b>Guardian's Allowance</b>	<b>Child Benefit</b>	<b>Childcare Grant</b>	<b>Carer's Credit</b>
<b>Maternity Allowance</b>	<b>Child Trust Fund</b>	<b>Free school meals</b>	<b>Care to Learn</b>
<b>Maternity pay and leave</b>	<b>Healthy Start</b>	<b>Help paying for childcare</b>	<b>Parents' Learning Allowance</b>
<b>Sure Start Maternity Grant</b>	<b>Universal Credit</b>	<b>Parental Leave</b>	<b>Bereavement Support Payments</b>

### **Child Benefit**

You get Child Benefit if you're responsible for a child who is under 16 (or under 20 if they stay in approved education or training). By claiming, you can get NI credits which count towards your State Pension. Your child will automatically get a NI number when they're 16 years old. If you choose not to get Child Benefit payments, you should still fill in and send off the claim form.

### **Help paying for childcare**

You can get help paying for childcare if it is 'approved childcare'. This usually means the childcare provider is registered with Ofsted. We can help you to find a nursery school place, a registered childminder or search for free early education and childcare.

### **Universal Credit**

The DWP classifies a 'family' as a single claimant or couple claimants who are responsible for one or more children or qualifying young persons. With Universal Credit, you could get regular monthly payments, which do not necessarily stop when you start work. This may make it easier to combine work with being a parent or take part-time, flexible or temporary jobs to help you gain valuable skills and avoid CV gaps. For more information, get in touch with us.

**For more information or help about Benefits and support for families or general advice, contact Paddock Wood Community Advice Centre at 64 Commercial Road, Paddock Wood, TN12 6DP Email: [info@pwadvice.org](mailto:info@pwadvice.org) Tel: 01892838619**