SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND OUR COMMUNITY

Pupil Premium Funding

As circumstances can change we are encouraging parents/carers to check if they qualify for pupil premium funding. This helps provide further funding to school, helping with enrichment activities as well as basic resources for students. Learners are also entitled to a daily free school meal. There are further details about eligibility here:
https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/schools/free-school-meals.aspx

If you are unsure please complete the form:
Apply for free school meals - My Kirklees Account

It is also possible you might be able to claim benefits or increase your current benefits if you are:

- of working age and on a low income
- sick or disabled
- of state pension age and on a low income
- a carer
- responsible for children

Kirklees Cost of Living Support



Kirklees Council have a range of assistance to anyone who is in need of support, to learn more visit:
https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/benefits/local-welfare-provision.aspx
https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/cost-of-living/index.aspx

You can check what benefits you could be eligible for using one of the links below:

- Benefit calculators: what benefits can you get - Citizens Advice
- Turn2us
- Policy in Practice
- Support for migrant families – use this calculator if you are a migrant family or if you have no recourse to public funds.

The government's cost of living payment is available for those receiving certain benefits or tax credits. You do not need to apply for these – if you are eligible the money will go straight into your account.

If you think you are due a payment and have not received one – report a missing payment to the government here.

Be aware of scams! If you receive any emails, texts or phone calls asking you to fill in an application form or asking for your bank details to receive a cost of living payment, **do not talk to them or send a reply**. Get more information on cost of living scams on the Money Saving Expert's website

You may be able to get benefits paid early if you are already feeling the squeeze - this is known as 'a short-term benefit advance' - you will need to contact the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) office that is dealing with your claim. This is possibly one of the following:
https://www.jobcentreplusoffices.co.uk/batley-jobcentre-plus-office
https://www.jobcentreplusoffices.co.uk/dewsbury-jobcentre-plus-office

For broader advice: https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/

Our local family hub, BBEST, have compiled a list of local groups and support organisations:
https://bbesthub.uk/Directory/

Healthy Start
If you are 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. Sainsbury's have recently announced that parents on Healthy Start can get added value when shopping there with their Healthy Start card, from 13 October until April 2023. Families using their Healthy Start card will receive a £2 coupon for fruit & vegetables to be redeemed at any Sainsbury's store in England. To check eligibility for, or apply to, the Healthy Start service families can visit: https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/.

A Warm Welcome Network
Local community venues joining together to support people to socialise, meet new friends and access resources which will help them to keep warm over the winter months**.**

https://bbesthub.uk/Directory/A-Warm-Welcome-Network/

The Crescent
A local organisation who provide all kinds of support including a food share (in partnership with BBest).

The Crescent - Carefully Crafted Care - You deserve Luxury Care (the-crescent.co.uk)

Support from School

Pastoral Teams
If you have concerns which may impact on school for whatever reason, please do get in touch. We will do whatever we can to help or direct you to support. In the first instance please email office@ubhs.co.uk

Uniform
Please get in touch if you have any difficulties in purchasing a uniform. We regularly have a range of uniform items that have been donated and remain in good condition or you can go to Uniform Exchange direct: https://www.uniform-exchange.org/ an organisation we support.

Other sources of support

Find out what help you can get with your energy bills.
Take a look at these resources from Simple Energy Advice, the British Gas Energy Trust and the Money Saving Expert website.

As the winter approaches, and bills start to escalate, there are a number of organisations who wish to offer, and receive support, to help all members of our community.

Batley Food Bank
info@batleyfoodbank.org.uk

We collect regularly to support this local organisation and welcome any further donations that can be dropped off directly to school. Alternatively, call to arrange a drop-off of donations directly. If you wish to find out more information, the food bank number is 01924 474999, email address as above.

Fusion Food Bank
info@fusionhousing.org.uk

Fusion offers advice regarding aspects of housing and learning and employment. Details can be found on their website. https://www.fusionhousing.org.uk/

If you are in immediate need and are receiving benefits that allow you to claim a housing payment, you can claim for a food pack through the Local Welfare Provision (LWP) by ringing 01484 414782. Lines are open from 10.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

If you have recently had a change of circumstances and have not yet made a claim to benefits, you can still access a food pack by making a self-referral by calling in at the Dewsbury office. If you are working with another agency they can assist you to call the LWP or make a self-referral.

All packs can be collected at the Dewsbury office between 12.00noon and 4.00pm Monday- Friday.

Beds for Children and Families
There are a number of organisations locally and beyond which are focusing on providing beds and bedding to families in need. If you need such support, or you know someone from of our school community who does, please contact cfarrar@ubhs.co.uk

Here are a range of other organisations/agencies who may be able to support your family during the coming months, click on the yellow links for further details:

British Gas Energy Support Fund (UK)
Debt relief grants are available to both British Gas customers and customers of other energy suppliers.

The OVO Energy Fund
Assists people who have fallen behind with their energy payments to OVO.

Scottish Power Hardship Fund
The Fund can help by clearing or reducing arrears by crediting a customer's Scottish Power energy account.

Grants for Older People

Friends of the Elderly provides grants to older people living on low incomes. Applications MUST be made by a professional on behalf of an older person in need.

Grants for the Disabled

Website and resources for anyone with a disability, caring for or working with disabled adults or children. They also have an excellent newsletter which highlights any changes or additions each month.

Citizens Advice

Provides links to a variety of support, guidance and crisis funding.

Family Action

Provides a list of useful numbers, links and signposting for a variety of organisations which offer support in areas such as, but not exclusive to, mental health, parenting and crime.

Stepchange

If you are struggling with debt.

Shelter

Assists with housing-related issues.

The Salvation Army

Offers help with budgeting and financial assistance.

Gingerbread

Available to assist single parent households.