

Seven Priorities for a Child and Family Friendly Budget 2020

CHILDREN'S
RIGHTS
ALLIANCE

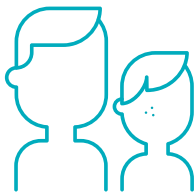
Uniting Voices For Children

1



Use targeted payments to reduce child poverty by increasing the Qualified Child Increase for parents in receipt of social welfare payments, with children over the age of 12 by €5 to €42 per week.

2



Support families moving into employment by increasing the Back to Work Family Dividend by €5 to €42 per week. Restore the value of the weekly income disregard for Lone Parents receiving the One Parent Family Payment, Jobseekers Transitional Payment and Jobseekers Allowance to 2011 levels to €165.62 per month.

3



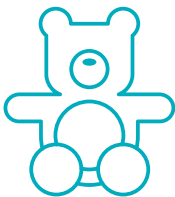
Every child should get a hot nutritious meal in formal and non-formal education settings. Early years and youth work settings should have access to funding under the existing School Meals Programme.

4



Invest €20 million to provide free school books for all primary school pupils to lighten the load on hard-pressed families.

5



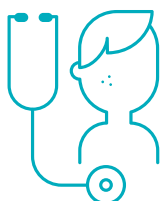
Ensure that families currently receiving subsidies do not lose out in the National Childcare Scheme. Also increase the number of hours available for children in school age childcare from 17 hours to 25 hours (estimated cost €135 million).

6



Invest €30 million in a 'Social Support Fund' for childcare settings working with children and families experiencing deprivation and social exclusion.

7



Increase the Medical Card income threshold for families with children so that more families in low paid work can benefit. Currently 25% of people at risk of poverty do not have a full medical card.