**Free school meals and footwear/clothing grants**

Children of parents receiving particular benefits are entitled to a free midday meal / footwear and clothing grants. Information and application forms for free school meals and footwear and clothing grants are available from schools, registration offices, customer service centres or by downloading from the council's website: [www.renfrewshire.gov.uk](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk)

**Education maintenance allowance (EMA)**

An Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is an allowance of £30 per week paid to eligible students aged 16 to 19 years old who stay on in full-time education after the legal school leaving age.

Entitlement to an EMA is based on an assessment of household income. The income thresholds for the EMA programme Academic Year 2017/18 are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| EMA Weekly Payments | | | | |
| Total Household Income for 2017/18 | | | | Weekly Payment |
| £0 | to | £26,884 | for families with more than one dependant child in full-time education | £30 |
| £0 | to | £24,421 | for families with a single dependant child in full-time education | £30 |

The weekly allowance is paid every second week in arrears directly into the student’s bank account. It is subject to attendance at school.

For more information please contact either the school office, Renfrewshire Council’s Customer Service Centre on 0300 300 0300 or email [ema.els@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:ema.els@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

Information is also available on Renfrewshire Council’s website: [www.renfrewshire.gov.uk](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk)