

Five Priorities for Children for Budget 2019

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ALLIANCE

Uniting Voices For Children

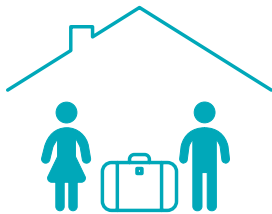
1



€40 million

Allocate €40 million to introduce one month's paid parental leave in Budget 2019 as a first step in the introduction of paid family leave that, when combined with paid maternity and paternity leave, allows parents to take leave for the entirety of the first year of a child's life.

2



Approx. €800,000

Increase the weekly allowance for children in Direct Provision to €31.80 to ensure that children in Direct Provision are treated equally to other children whose parents are in receipt of social welfare payments.

3



Invest

Invest in a new Family Law and Children's Court Complex on Hammond Lane, a purpose-built children and family law court complex, to ensure that proceedings involving children are heard in a non-intimidating and child-sensitive setting.

4



€40 million

Allocate an additional €30 million to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to meet the demand for childcare subsidies and invest a further €10 million to increase the full-time universal childcare subsidy rate from €20 to €30 per week per child under three years to make childcare more affordable for families.

5



€35 million

Introduce a higher rate of Qualified Child Increase for children over the age of 12, bringing this weekly social welfare payment from €31.80 to €36.80, in recognition of the higher costs faced by families with older children