



Supporting Families Team

The DWP Supporting Families Team works in partnership with Cumbria County Council to provide support for local families. Together we can help to make a brighter future for your family.

We can:

- Check your household income and benefits to ensure you are paid the right money at the right time to support your family budget
- Carry out a better-off calculation for you to show how your finances can improve when starting work, when increasing your hours or when changing jobs
- Support you with budgeting and debt management advice
- Support you back into the workplace by accessing funding through your local Jobcentre, removing barriers to work such as upfront childcare costs, clothes for interviews, equipment needed for work and initial travel to work costs
- Support you when you want to start your own business or are self employed
- Support you back into the workplace if you have recently lost your job or been made redundant
- Support you with apprenticeships, traineeships, training, volunteering, work experience placements or want to improve your qualifications
- Support you if you have a disability and want to get into work using the Government's Access to Work Scheme where appropriate
- Support you with on-line job searching using jobsites and social media platforms
- Support you to update your CV and can carry out a skills audit to find out the jobs that best suit your skills
- Provide you with ongoing in work support
- Refer you to local service providers and charities for 1-2-1 support depending on your individual needs
- Provide regular progress updates to Lead Professionals where appropriate



Here is how you can contact your local Supporting Families Employment Adviser:

Name [Louise Armstrong, Vicky Norwood, Kerry Keens, Rachel Slowey and Adele Aitken](#)

E-mail Focus.family@cumbria.gov.uk

Team Manager: edna.skillen@dwp.gov.uk

We are here to help you and your family