



It's not austerity or poverty that creates killer children, it's neglectful parents

SARAH VINE SEE PAGE 17



RISHI: DON'T GIVE LABOUR A BLANK CHEQUE

■ PM warns Keir will change rules to hold power for 'long time'

■ He unveils £17bn of tax cuts in manifesto to reward aspiration

■ Pledges to scrap NI for self-employed — and 2p cut for workers

By **Jason Groves**
Political Editor

RISHI Sunak yesterday warned voters not to give Labour a 'blank cheque' at next month's election.

Unveiling £17billion of tax cuts, the Prime Minister used his manifesto to create clear blue water with Sir Keir Starmer's party on what is becoming the central election battleground.

He said the Tories would reward Britain's strivers with a further 2p cut to National Insurance – and a pledge to abolish the tax altogether for the self-employed.

And he issued a stark warning about the dangers of a Labour government, arguing that Sir Keir could rig the electoral system to stay in power 'for a very long time'.

The PM said he was 'not blind to the fact that people are frustrated with our party, and frustrated with me,' adding: 'Things have not been easy and we have not got everything right.'

But he said the Tories were the only party with the 'big ideas to make our country a better place to live'.

Describing Sir Keir's offering as a 'blank sheet of paper', he said Labour offered 'no solutions to our problems'. Mr Sunak warned

Turn to Page 2



Pecs appeal:
England
star Jude
Bellingham
ahead of
the Euros

Jude, the hunk with a nation's hopes resting on his shoulders

SEE PAGE THREE