

Help to find a cure
for childhood cancer
with a gift in your Will



children
with
cancer uk





How will a gift in my Will be used?

We want to give children diagnosed with cancer a brighter future, and a gift in your Will can help achieve this.

Children with Cancer UK's long-term goals are simple. We want to...

- Find a cure for all types of childhood cancer.
- Develop life-saving treatments without life-changing side effects.
- Learn more about the causes of childhood cancer to help prevent it.

That's why gifts in Wills are so crucial. These are huge long-term goals, and as we receive no help from the government we need long-term funding in order to achieve them.

We are a small charity with few overheads, so you can be assured that a gift in your Will will be invested wisely to help the 3,600 children and young people diagnosed with cancer every year in the UK.

“ Phoebe is alive today thanks to research that was funded by people like you. I truly can't thank you enough. Leaving a gift in your Will to help fight childhood cancer is the ultimate legacy. ”

Amos, Phoebe's dad

How do I make or update my Will?

We know that making a Will can seem daunting, but it may well be easier and less expensive than you think. To help with the legal jargon that you will come across, please see our glossary of legal terms on the inside back cover of this brochure.

A Will is a legal document that includes instructions on what you would like to happen to your assets, and can also include funeral plans and other important instructions.

There are three types of gifts that you can leave in your Will.

- **Residuary legacy** - a percentage of your estate after debts and other gifts
- **Pecuniary legacy** - a fixed amount of money
- **Specific legacy** - a specific item like a personal possession

Making a Will for the first time

- ✓ Make a list of everything that you own, including property, bank accounts, shares and possessions and so on.
- ✓ Make a list of any debts, including outstanding mortgage payments, overdrafts and loans.
- ✓ Choose the appropriate people to act as your executor/s, who will carry out the instructions in your Will.
- ✓ Make a list of the loved ones and organisations that you would like to remember in your Will, and what you would like to leave to each of them.

- ✓ Consider any other details that you might like to include, such as naming a guardian for any young children, funeral instructions and care of dependent relatives and/or pets.
- ✓ Select a Wills and Probate solicitor via The Law Society in England and Wales (lawsociety.org.uk) or The Law Society of Scotland (lawscot.org.uk). Or contact us about The National Free Wills Network to potentially have your Will written or amended for free (details on page 13).

Updating an existing Will

- ✓ You can update an existing Will with a simple legal document called a Codicil. To find out more about this, and to see an example Codicil form, go to pages 10/11.



A gift in your Will could help children like Samuel, who was diagnosed with a brain tumour aged two.

Frequently asked questions

Why should I make a Will?

If you do not make a Will, the State will decide how best to divide up your assets. By making a Will, you can leave your possessions to the people and causes that you care about most.

How can I make my Will?

A Will is a legal document and so, for peace of mind, we always recommend that you ask a solicitor to draw it up for you.

How much will it cost?

The cost will vary depending on the complexity of your Will, but if your requirements are simple, it need not be expensive. You can also make use of the National Free Wills Network, see further details on page 13.



Thanks to research, Ace is now in remission and will be able to celebrate many more birthdays.

What should I do before I visit the solicitor?

Make a list of your assets and decide how you would like to divide them up amongst family, friends and charities. Take a note of any outstanding debts you may have too.

How can I amend my existing Will?

You can easily add a gift to Children with Cancer UK to an existing Will, by using a Codicil. A Codicil is a simple legal document that amends, rather than replaces, an existing Will. A ready-made Codicil is included on page 11.

We strongly recommend that you consult a solicitor, or the National Free Wills Network, before making a Codicil as it is a legal document and it's important that it is properly prepared and signed in order to be valid.

What if I can't afford to leave a gift in my Will to charity?

All gifts, large and small, could make a real difference to a child in the future who is suffering from cancer. With ten children and young people being diagnosed every day in the UK, whatever you can give will be hugely appreciated.

Are there any tax benefits of leaving money to charity?

You may know that inheritance tax applies to any part of your estate that is worth more than £325,000. Any amount above this value will be taxed at 40%. However, legacies to charities are free of inheritance tax.

As a further tax incentive, if you leave 10% or more of your net estate to charity, a reduced inheritance tax rate of 36% instead of 40% will apply to your taxable estate.

The legal wording that your solicitor will need to leave a gift in your Will

Whichever type of gift you decide to leave in your Will, you will find the legal wording for it below. Please take this with you when you visit your solicitor to have your Will drawn up.

To leave a share of your estate

A residuary legacy is a share of your estate, once gifts and debts have been paid.

I give the whole/..... percentage share [delete whichever does not apply and, if leaving a share, insert the share] of the residue of my estate after payment of my debts, funeral and testamentary expenses and any legacies contained in my Will or any Codicil to it, to Children with Cancer UK (registered charity number 298405) of registered office address 51 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JQ.

I direct that the receipt of the duly authorised officer of Children with Cancer UK shall be a sufficient discharge for my Executor/Trustees.

To leave a specific amount

A pecuniary legacy is a fixed sum of money.

I give the sum of £..... (pounds) free of tax to Children with Cancer UK (registered charity number 298405) of registered office address 51 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JQ.

I direct that the receipt of the duly authorised officer of Children with Cancer UK shall be a sufficient discharge for my Executor/Trustees.

To leave a particular item

A specific legacy is a specific item, such as a personal possession.

I give my (include short description of the specific item) free of tax to Children with Cancer UK (registered charity number 298405) of registered office address 51 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JQ.

I direct that the receipt of the duly authorised officer of Children with Cancer UK shall be a sufficient discharge for my Executor/Trustees.

Changing your existing Will using a Codicil

You can easily add a gift to Children with Cancer UK to an existing Will by using a legal document called a Codicil.

We strongly recommend that you visit a solicitor to make a Codicil, to avoid any legal problems later on.

For some people, making a new Will from scratch may be the best way to make changes, especially if there is already a Codicil in existence.

To find a local Wills and Probate solicitor, visit **lawsociety.org.uk** (in England and Wales) or **lawscot.org.uk** (Scotland). Or consult the National Free Wills Network, see further information on page 13.

Please find an example Codicil overleaf, which you can take with you when you visit your solicitor.

Codicil

I (Full name)

Of (Address)

.....

.....

.....(Postcode)

Declare this to be a first second third Codicil to my Will, dated and made on *[insert date of existing Will]*

I give (please tick one):

- the following proportion of the residue of my estate (state the percentage or share)
- the sum of £ (state the amount)
- a specific item of

to Children with Cancer UK, of registered office address 51 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JQ, registered charity number 298405, for its general charitable purposes, and I direct that the receipt(s) of the duly authorised officer of Children with Cancer UK shall be a sufficient discharge for my Executor/Trustees.

Continued overleaf.

In all other respects I confirm my Will and any other Codicils thereto.

Signature Date .../.../....

Signed by the aforementioned in our presence and witnessed by us in the presence of him/her and of each other.

Witness One

Name

Address.....

.....

..... Postcode.....

Occupation

Signature Date .../.../....

Witness Two

Name

Address.....

.....

..... Postcode.....

Occupation

Signature Date .../.../....

National Free Wills Network

As a member of the National Free Wills Network, Children with Cancer UK is pleased to be able to offer all supporters aged 55 or over a free Will writing service.

The National Free Wills Network is a national network of local law firms, offering Will writing services to supporters of UK charities.

Law firms can also offer amendments to an existing Will free of charge too.

You are under no obligation to leave a gift to us in your Will, but we would be delighted if you did.

Yes – I would like to take up the offer of a free Will. Please send me details, including a step-by-step guide plus details of participating solicitors in my area.

Name

Address.....

.....

..... Postcode.....

Telephone

Please return this form to: Freepost Plus RTHT-RBLZ-HHTX, Alan Prior, Children with Cancer UK, 51 Great Ormond Street, LONDON WC1N 3JQ.



Glossary of legal terms

Making a Will doesn't have to be confusing. Here's a handy guide to the terminology you may come across.

Beneficiary: a person or organisation (such as a charity) to whom you leave a gift in your Will.

Codicil: a legal document which amends an existing Will.

Estate: everything you own at the time of death, such as money and property, and everything that you owe, such as debts and your mortgage.

Executor: a person appointed to carry out the instructions given in a Will.

Intestate: the legal term for a person who dies without making a valid Will.

Legacy: a gift left to a person or organisation in a Will.

Pecuniary legacy: a gift of a fixed sum of money left in a Will.

Probate: the legal procedure to determine whether or not a Will is valid.

Residuary legacy: a gift of the whole or a share of your residuary estate, once gifts, debts and costs have been paid.

Specific legacy: a gift of a specific item, such as a personal possession.

We're here to help

If you have any questions about leaving a gift in your Will, we would be more than happy to help.

Call Alan on 020 7404 0808

Email legacies@childrenwithcancer.org.uk

Visit childrenwithcancer.org.uk/will

Rose, pictured right, was diagnosed with leukaemia at five months old.

Children with Cancer UK. Registered Charity No. 298405. A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 4960054. Registered office: 51 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JQ.

