

TOGETHER WE CAN GIVE HOPE TO GRIEVING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Your guide to remembering
Winston's Wish in your Will



**WINSTON'S
WISH W&W**

Giving hope to grieving children

LEAVING A GIFT OF HOPE

A message from Fergus Crow, our Chief Executive

As you or someone you love may know, the death of someone important can be one of those most devastating and life altering experiences a child will ever have to face.

We know from experience that with the right support, at the right time, children can learn to understand their grief, rediscover their hope for their own future, and rebuild their life.

A gift in your Will to Winston's Wish would be a gift of hope to a grieving child and their family. Hope that the pain will lessen. Hope that they can see beyond their grief. Hope they will find comfort in having someone to talk to. And hope of a future of health and happiness.

Since 1992, with the support of people like you, Winston's Wish has transformed thousands of lives. Looking to the future, we are committed to reaching all the children and young people who will need us. And we are putting grief support right where it should be – in the hands of the children, young people, families, and professionals who need it.

UK death rates are higher than ever before. Nearly 1 million 0–25-year-olds in the UK may have experienced the death of a parent, brother, or sister – that's around 5% of the 0-25 population.

But we are undaunted by this challenge.

We have set the standard and been there to provide help after some of the country's most high-profile tragedies, and we won't stop until we can say for sure that no child or young person has had to face their grief alone. It doesn't have to be this way for grieving children and young people.

A gift in your Will today could help ensure that in the future we can reach every child who needs us.

Please consider leaving a gift in your Will today.

Thank you.

Fergus



THE IMPACT OF YOUR LEGACY

Our Vision

A society in which every child and young person gets the help they need after anyone close to them dies.

Our Mission

To make sure no child or young person faces grief alone.

Last year alone we:

- Received over 6k calls to our helpline – offering practical advice and emotional support to young people and families in their darkest times.
- Trained over 17k professionals who work with children who are grieving.
- Provided printed and digital resources to over 22k children and young people directly.

For every child we help today, there are many more that will need us in the future.

These are some of the most vulnerable children and young people in the UK. Research tells us:

- Today a young person loses a parent on average every 20 minutes.
- Bereaved children are 1.5 times more likely to have a mental health disorder.
- Under 17s whose parent died by suicide, are 3 times more likely to die by suicide.
- 41% of young offenders experienced bereavement as a child.
- Children bereaved of a parent or sibling are more likely to experience clinical levels of anxiety, depression, difficulties with conduct and develop post-traumatic stress disorder long into their adult lives.

With a gift in your Will, you can change lives, and help change these statistics.

Every grief is unique as the child that feels it. We focus on each and every individual's needs to give them right level of support, in the right way, at the right time. Through our young ambassadors and youth board we actively engage children and young people in shaping our services today, and our plans for tomorrow.

Your foresight and kindness could help to ensure we can continue this special work, and be there for future generations. By 2025 we hope to support over 57,000 children and young people every single year. But we can't do it alone.

HARVEY'S STORY

Harvey was just 2 ½ years old when his mum died in a car accident. Two years later his dad died of cancer. Harvey moved to live with his aunt Katie...

"We first came to know Winston's Wish when Harvey's mum died. They talked to us and gave us some information. It was very difficult as he was so young. So when Harvey's dad was diagnosed with cancer, I instantly knew to reach out to Winston's Wish and called the helpline. They gave us advice and walked us through how to talk to him and help make sense of what was happening.

"We just felt so overwhelmed, but Winston's Wish were amazing. They gave us tips such as giving simple pieces of information and suggesting what words to say and not say. They advised we didn't use the word 'poorly' so as not to scare the children every time they or someone they love gets poorly. I look back now and think that was so important.

"Harvey's sessions with the Winston's Wish gave him a place where he could be completely honest about how he felt, whatever his feelings were. Kids don't get that opportunity often. They also helped Harvey understanding that it's not just him going through this. There are other families and children that have been through tragic and similar circumstances.

For Harvey, it's not just what he and Winston's Wish have achieved, but the comfort of knowing they are there if he needs it going forward."



AMY'S STORY

Amy is 24 and lost her mum after a 2-year battle with cancer.

"After losing my Mum to lung cancer, I found myself struggling heavily with my grief after going back to work. I was trying to "get on" with life but felt like I was drowning.

"My manager saw this and sent me the Winston's Wish website. After reaching out to them via email, I joined some of the group support sessions and they were super helpful for my journey and processing the grief and feelings I had. I've since signed up as a Youth Ambassador as I can't thank Winston's Wish enough for all their help and support and want to try and help others where possible.

"Grief is still a massive part of my life, but I feel like Winston's Wish taught me that grieving is okay and that if you reach out and ask for help, it does become easier to cope with."

A gift in your Will is an opportunity to make the difference we might never have been able to do in our lifetime - giving future generations hope amid their grief.

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

As a supporter of Winston's Wish, you are at the centre of everything we do and therefore this is our promise to you:

To be respectful: Family are often the closest people in our lives, and we know their needs will always come first when writing a Will.

To be accountable: We respect your choice and will never put you under pressure to leave a gift in your Will.

To use your gifts wisely: We will do our best to uphold any wishes you have about the use of a gift in your Will.

To respect your privacy: We understand not everyone wishes to share details of a gift in their will and respect everyone's right to privacy.



HELPING YOU CHANGE OR WRITE YOUR WILL

Winston's Wish works with two well established and professional partners to help our supporters make and amend their Wills in the most straightforward way possible.

Bequeathed

Bequeathed provide a free Will writing service. Simply follow the steps to get started online.

After booking an online video call with the legal team, an advisor will explore your wants and needs, explain your options, and then help to write your Will. Once it's completed, they'll send a copy to you and also store it securely for free.

To start writing your Will, visit bequeathed.org/winstonswish

bequeathed
make your Will For Good



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The Goodwill Partnership

The Goodwill Partnership service charges £145 to draft your Will. This cost includes a free, no obligation home-visit (or phone call if preferred) with a trained counsellor, who will work with you on writing your Will at a time that is convenient to you.

To use this service simply visit thegoodwillpartnership.co.uk/winstons-wish or call them directly on **0844 669 6148**.

the
Goodwill
Partnership



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With either of the above options, please know that there is no obligation to leave a gift to Winston's Wish in your Will. We do hope however that you may consider it.

STEP BY STEP GUIDE

1 WORK OUT THE VALUE OF YOUR ESTATE

Make a list of everything that you own (your assets). This might include your home, car, valuables (jewellery, art etc), as well as any shares, bank accounts and savings. Then do the same for anything that you owe. The difference between the two will give you an idea of your estate's value.

2 WHO TO INCLUDE IN YOUR WILL

Make a list of all those you wish to remember in your Will, and what you want to leave for them. This could be a financial figure, a percentage of your estate, or a specific item. You can include family, friends, and causes that matter to you.

You can leave three different kinds of gift:

- a percentage of your estate - Residuary Gift.
- a specific sum of money - Pecuniary Gift.
- an item like jewellery, furniture, land, or shares - Specific Gift.

See next page for suggested wording.

Many people leave a Residuary Gift as a way of supporting Winston's Wish. Just a small percentage of your estate would make a lasting difference to the children, young people and families who need our help.

3 CHOOSE YOUR EXECUTORS & GUARDIANS

You can appoint up to four executors who are responsible for making sure the instruction of your Will is carried out. They can be friends or family, or a professional such as a solicitor.

Guardians are people you appoint to look after your children, in the event that you die before they are 18 (16 in Scotland). We recommend discussing your wishes with the people you wish to appoint first.

4 GET THE RIGHT SUPPORT

Reach out to Bequeathed, The Goodwill Partnership, or your chosen solicitor to arrange the drafting of your Will. You might like to write down any questions you have ahead of this.

Including a gift in your Will is a tax-effective way to donate to Winston's Wish. Your donation won't be subject to inheritance tax. And it could reduce any tax that needs to be paid from your estate.

5 KEEP YOUR WILL SAFE

Make sure someone you trust knows where your original Will is kept (ideally with your solicitor) and keep a copy in a safe place. It's also a good idea to register your Will with the National Will Register (nationalwillregister.co.uk) to help ensure it can be traced in years to come.

6 MAKE SURE YOUR WILL STAYS UP TO DATE

It's important to review your Will every few years and especially following a marriage, divorce, having a child, or a change in your financial circumstances. If you'd like to add a simple cash gift, a separate document called a Codicil is the easiest way to do this. For more complex changes it's best to write a new Will.

7 LET US KNOW YOUR INTENTIONS

If you do decide to leave a gift to Winston's Wish in your Will, we would love you to let us know. It's completely up to you whether you tell us, but it gives us the opportunity to thank you and let you know what your gift could achieve. We'll never ask you how much you plan to leave, and of course we understand that you can change your mind at any time.

You can email our Supporter Care team at any time with your questions, or to let us know your intentions SupporterCare@winstonswish.org

WORDING YOUR GIFT

Writing or updating an existing Will can seem daunting. The example wording below can make the process of leaving a gift in your Will to Winston's Wish that little bit easier. You can take this wording with you when discussing your Will with a solicitor.

Residuary gift

This is a percentage of what remains of your estate after gifts and expenses have been paid.

I give ___% of the residue of my real and personal estate which I can dispose of by will in any manner I think proper, to Winston's Wish (Registered Charity number 1061359 in England and Wales and SC041140 in Scotland) to be applied to the general purpose of the said charity.

Pecuniary gift

This is a gift of a set amount.

I give the sum of £___ to Winston's Wish (Registered Charity number 1061359 in England and Wales and SC041140 in Scotland) to be applied to the general purpose of the said charity.

Specific gift

This is a particular item.

I give (description of item to be given) to Winston's Wish (Registered Charity number 1061359 in England and Wales and SC041140 in Scotland) to be applied to the general purpose of the said charity.



CAN WE HELP?

To ask us a question, tell us your thoughts about putting a gift to Winston's Wish in your Will, or to ask for more information, please contact us on:

PHONE: 01242 515 157

EMAIL: supportercare@winstonswish.org

POST: Winston's Wish, Conway House, 31-33 Worcester Street, Gloucester GL1 3AJ



THANK YOU

Thank you once again for supporting Winston's Wish, and considering leaving a gift in your Will

Helpline: 08088 020 021
winstonswish.org



Winston's Wish, Conway House, 31-33 Worcester Street,
Gloucester GL1 3AJ | Tel: 01242 515 157

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