

Leaving a Gift in your will to Grace Eyre.

We have got the answers to your most common questions.

Every gift in your will, will help someone we support to nurture their ability, feel more equal in their community and to grow their independence.

Because of you we can help people change and improve their lives.



Is making or changing a will expensive?

There is no requirement to have any legal qualifications or knowledge to be able to write a will, you can even buy kits to make them at home. Consequently, there is a vast difference in the service you will receive and the protection and redress available to you if there is a problem.

We would always recommend getting professional legal advice about writing your will. Look for those professionals who are a member of The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners or a member of the Institute of Professional Will Writers to make sure they have specialist knowledge.

Most solicitors make every effort to ensure that the cost of preparing wills is kept as reasonable as possible.

What is the difference between a will and a trust, and do I need both?

A will is a legal document that distributes your estate on your death and only comes into force at the time of your death. A trust protects the assets placed in it for the people you want to benefit.

If you have a loved one with a learning disability and/or autism and you would like to ensure they are financially protected long into the future, it is a good idea to have both.

How should I go about setting up a trust?

Setting up a trust so that it achieves what is needed in your family's particular circumstances and adheres to trust laws and HMRC guidance can be quite tricky. It is best to speak to a legal professional or a trust adviser such as a member of The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners.

What is a codicil and when can I use it?

You can change your will by means of a codicil – which is an addition to a will. This is often cheaper than making a whole new will. However, we would recommend that you only use codicil to make simple changes to your will, for example, adding in a gift to a charity. The codicil is a separate document which is kept with your will but they cannot be attached to each other.

How can I limit the amount of Inheritance Tax paid?

Inheritance Tax is payable if your estate exceeds the Inheritance Tax allowance. If you leave your estate to an exempt beneficiary, such as a spouse or charity, then no Inheritance Tax is payable on the value passing to that beneficiary.

We would recommend you seek advice from a professional who can give you tailored Inheritance Tax planning advice.

Is it worth leaving money to Grace Eyre if it's not that much?

Yes, definitely. Any gift you choose to leave to Grace Eyre is gratefully received and will enable us to help more families like those you can read about in our Leaving a Gift in your Will to Grace Eyre guide and on our website.

Can Grace Eyre be my executor?

Unfortunately Grace Eyre cannot act as an executor to your will. Most people generally appoint a friend, a family member or a professional. It is a good idea to have more than one executor though, just in case something happens to them.

Can a gift to charity help me pay less tax?

Yes, is the simple answer. Any gift to charity is exempt from Inheritance Tax. In addition, if you leave 10% or more of your estate which is above the Inheritance Tax threshold, the rate on which you are taxed on the balance reduces from 40% to 36%.

Can I give a donation to Grace Eyre "in memory" of a friend or loved one?

Yes. It is a really good way to remember and pay tribute to someone close to you. By making a donation in their memory, you are making sure that their memory lives on through the vital work that Grace Eyre does for people with learning disabilities and/or autism. For more information on this type of gift, please visit: <https://www.grace-eyre.org/how-you-can-help/donate/>

