



**PLAN**  
INTERNATIONAL

Plan International

**BECOME A DREAM MAKER**  
**SPONSOR A CHILD**

# WHY YOUR SPONSORSHIP IS NEEDED TODAY

Every child deserves a chance in life. But for children in the world's poorest communities, the odds are stacked against them.

Now more than ever, with the ongoing impact of coronavirus and other emergencies around the world, children urgently need a sponsor like you.

By becoming a sponsor today, you can help children like this girl from Guatemala grow up in a safe and resilient community. You'll also give them a chance to go to school and learn – even in the toughest circumstances – so they can go on to achieve their dreams.

## MORE THAN 263 MILLION

adolescents and youth were out of school worldwide, even before Covid-19.

## OVER 34 MILLION

children are currently displaced by natural disasters or conflict.

## EVERY THREE SECONDS

another girl becomes a child bride.

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## Here are just some of the many ways sponsors have helped give children a chance

### 1937

A British journalist and an aid worker sought to help children orphaned by the Spanish civil war; so they encouraged people to send donations and messages of support to children in need. **The idea of child sponsorship was born!**



PLAN Archives, University of Rhode Island

### 1940

During WWII, Plan International grew to help children across Europe. Gradually, we also began to work with more of the world's poorest communities.

### 1983

**Ethiopia's worst famine in history hit.** Plan International was there with food and supplies, helping to save thousands of children's lives.



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### 2004

When **a huge Tsunami hit Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and Indonesia** we responded quickly, reaching 650,000 people with life-saving support.

### 2015

Plan International supported girls to launch a global petition, gaining 42,000 signatures. **Together we succeeded in making child marriage illegal in Malawi.**



Plan International / Timveni Youth Media

### 2019

In this year alone, **140,000 letters were exchanged** through Plan International's sponsorship programme, improving children's confidence and literacy skills.

### TODAY

With the ongoing impact of coronavirus, children need sponsors now more than ever. Currently, over 1.4 million people sponsor children around the world.

**Will you join them?**

**Sponsor a child online now or call 0300 777 9779.**

# HOW IT ALL WORKS



## With as little as 65p a day....

Your gifts will be carefully spent to benefit your sponsored child's whole community. We work closely with children and communities, listen to the challenges they face and combine our expertise with their local knowledge to find long lasting solutions together.

For only £19.50 per month, you can start your sponsorship today and help change a life.

## SPONSORING A CHILD WILL HELP TO:

### PROTECT GIRLS FROM ABUSE



Plan International / Patrick Kaplin

**Every three seconds, a girl is forced into child marriage.**

Now the lasting impact of Coronavirus puts more girls at risk, as families lose income.

Through Plan International training, Shalini, pictured, learned her rights and the importance of education. This inspiring girl not only convinced elders to stop her own child marriage, but was able to prevent dozens of others.

Whether you **choose to sponsor a girl** or a boy, you will help prevent harmful practices like child marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and enable girls to access period hygiene products. Vitally, you'll help educate boys to value girls, so that everyone benefits.

**Over 263 million children worldwide are out of school.**

Girls, in particular, are even more likely to be denied an education.

In El Salvador, many girls drop out of school early because they're forced into a child marriage. Thanks to sponsorship, these girls pictured are able to go to school and received bags and books to help them study.

Your sponsorship will also help train local teachers and provide essential learning materials and uniforms for families who can't afford them, so every child has a chance to learn and achieve their dreams.

### PROVIDE EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL SKILLS



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### HELP THEIR WHOLE COMMUNITY



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**One in four children lives in a country where disaster or conflict has turned their lives upside down.** Coronavirus, one of the biggest emergencies in the last 100 years, is now pushing struggling families further into poverty.

Your sponsorship will help save lives when emergencies strike. It will help provide children and their communities with essentials – such as access to safe water and hand-washing training to prevent the spread of disease – or training on how to shelter during a disaster. You'll also help communities to grow more resilient to future crises.

**Find out more about why sponsorship is so important for children and their communities.**

**Sponsor a child online today or call 0300 777 9779 to start your sponsorship today!**

# YOUR JOURNEY

When you decide to sponsor a child, you'll start an amazing journey that transforms both their life and yours. You can hear about their dreams in the letters they send you and encourage them to achieve them.

## WHAT YOU'LL RECEIVE

An introduction pack, with photos of your sponsored child and information about them and their community.



We'll be sure to send you annual updates about their progress. You'll even have the opportunity to visit your sponsored child too one day.



A letter or a drawing from your sponsored child. You can even respond too if you wish, and they will write back!



## A REASON TO SMILE

Thanks to child sponsorship, Sarah and children like her now have the chance to go to school and follow their dreams.

With every letter you send, you'll also help your sponsored child to increase their literacy skills and grow in confidence too!



## WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A SPONSOR

"To receive letters and to complete the experience by visiting Sarah in her community has been amazing."

Elizabeth, child sponsor



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"Child marriage is wrong on so many levels. That's why I knew I had to sponsor Ana, because I want her to know that I will stand with her."

Judy, child sponsor



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"I just want Katia to grow up to be a strong independent woman, to stand up for herself and to be anything in the world that she wants to be."

Amrita, child sponsor



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"I AM JOYCE, AND I WANT TO BE A NURSE!"

Once you become a sponsor, you'll learn all about your sponsored child. From what their dreams are for the future to their favourite food!



Plan International / Eliza Powell

Sponsorship can help a child to achieve their dreams! Start your journey today. [Sign up online here](#) or call 0300 777 9779.

# YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

## HOW MUCH IS IT TO SPONSOR A CHILD?

We ask for a minimum donation of £19.50 monthly. You can also choose to pay in quarterly, bi-annual, or annual instalments.

## HOW ARE DONATIONS SPENT?

At least 80% of your sponsorship will go towards funding development projects where your sponsored child lives. The sponsored children are involved in deciding, planning and carrying out all the projects.

## HOW MANY CHILDREN ARE SPONSORED?

Over 1.4 million children worldwide. People in the UK sponsor about 85,700 children.

## CAN I SPONSOR MORE THAN ONE CHILD?

Yes, we'd love you to. When you **sign up online**, you can choose to sponsor children from different parts of the world and learn about their culture.

## HOW LONG WILL MY SPONSORSHIP LAST?

Once your sponsored child reaches 18 years old, they will officially "graduate" from the sponsorship program. Before this, we'll be in touch to update you on their progress and inform you that your

sponsorship will be coming to an end. Thanks to you, their community will be safer and more resilient, and they'll have more opportunities to reach their potential. And if you choose, you can then sponsor another child to give them a chance in life too.

## CAN I STOP MY SPONSORSHIP IF I NEED TO?

Of course! Long term support allows us to be there for even more children; however, we understand this isn't always possible. If you do need to cancel your sponsorship, please contact us.

## CAN I WRITE TO MY SPONSORED CHILD?

Yes! It is totally up to you, but your sponsored child will love it if you decide to write. For each letter you send, you'll get a reply. Through the messages you exchange, you can help inspire a child's imagination and encourage them to achieve their ambitions.

## CAN I GIVE SPONSORSHIP AS A GIFT?

Yes, you can. Sponsorship can be gifted to a friend or family member. Simply tick the box to select this option when **signing up on our website**.

## I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS, WHO SHOULD I ASK?

**You can find more FAQs online here**, or you can contact our team. Simply email **supporterquestions@plan-uk.org** or call us on **0300 777 9779** (Monday to Friday, 9:30am to 4:30pm)

## BECOME A DREAM MAKER TODAY.

Sponsor a child online now at: **www.plan-uk.org/sponsor-a-child** or call today on **0300 777 9779**. Thank you.

