

YOUR QUESTIONS

ANSWERED



Hopefully the information below will answer any questions you might have. If there's anything else, or if you'd like to chat to our Gifts in Wills Team, led by Sophia Stylianou, you can reach them by calling **+44(0)20 3217 0215** or emailing legacies@plan-uk.org

HOW DO I INCLUDE PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK IN MY WILL?

If you'd like to include Plan International UK in your will we suggest you visit a practising solicitor. To help ensure your gift is used in the way you would wish we have a suggested legal wording for you to show your solicitor and use when writing your will. We have included suggested wording in this folder.

I HAVE ALREADY GOT A WILL - HOW DO I CHANGE IT?

Ask your solicitor to add a codicil (the legal term for an amendment). If you want to make substantial changes it may be better to ask your solicitor to draft a new will. We have included a sample codicil form with this folder.

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A SOLICITOR?

We'd be happy to send you a list of solicitors near you who specialise in wills. Please contact us if you'd like us to do this.

CAN I LEAVE A LEGACY TO THE CHILD I SPONSOR?

We aren't able to give a gift to a specific child or family. The strength of our community approach is that our work benefits all the children in a community, not just those who are sponsored.

However, you can ask for your gift to benefit our work in the country where your sponsored child lives, or a particular kind of project. Please get in touch if you'd like to discuss this.

ARE THERE ANY TAX BENEFITS TO LEAVING A LEGACY?

Generally, if your estate is worth more than £325,000, inheritance tax is charged (at up to 40%) on the part of it over this threshold. This may be different for certain individuals, such as married couples, those who have been widowed and those leaving their family home to children or grandchildren – please ask your solicitor.

But there are two ways leaving a gift to a charity can help reduce the impact of inheritance tax on your beneficiaries.

- Any gift to charity in your will would generally be exempt from inheritance tax thus reducing the amount of tax due from the estate.
- In some situations, anyone leaving 10% or more of their estate to charity may qualify for a reduced rate of inheritance tax – 36% rather than 40%.

Charities are also generally exempt from capital gains tax. When someone dies, the assets in their estate are valued and, if they are later sold during the estate administration at a higher value, capital gains tax may be payable on the increase (the gain). If however an asset is transferred to a charity before sale, this can reduce the estate's capital gains tax bill (because the charity is exempt), which can therefore benefit the wider estate. Your solicitor can advise you further on this.

CAN I SUPPORT A SPECIFIC TYPE OF PROJECT?

Yes. You can personalise your gift by requesting that it be used to support a certain area of our work: health projects, for example, or education.

We'll do everything we can to follow your wishes, but, as life changes in developing countries, the focus of our work will change, so it's best to allow some flexibility in your instructions. If there's a specific area you wish to support, please contact us to talk about how this might happen.

IS THERE SUGGESTED WORDING TO LEAVE A GIFT IN MY WILL TO PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK?

Yes – please see the suggested wording included with this pack. This will help when you visit your solicitor.

CAN I GIVE A GIFT TO PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE?

Of course. You can find out more about celebrating the life of a loved one by simply getting in touch.

WHAT DO I DO ONCE I'VE LEFT A LEGACY TO PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK?

You don't need to do anything else, but it is very helpful if you get in touch to let us know. Knowing that you are leaving us a gift in your will helps us plan for the future. We'd also like to have the chance to say thank you.

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A LARGE GIFT TO LEAVE?

Of course, your loved ones should always come first, but any gift that you leave to Plan, no matter how big or small, will mean we are able to continue to provide some of the world's poorest children with essentials such as education, healthcare, clean water and toilets.