



**EDUCATION  
FOR GENERATIONS**

**HOW A GIFT IN YOUR WILL  
COULD GIVE GENERATIONS  
OF GIRLS **A CHANCE****



For children and  
equality for girls

# WITH EDUCATION, THE GIRLS OF TODAY AND TOMORROW CAN **TAKE CHARGE** OF THEIR OWN LIVES.



We've been protecting children for over 80 years and, no matter how long you've supported us, you've helped to continue changing lives. The most impactful way to do that is with education, because it can empower girls to control their future, and learn that their rights matter too.

Of course, your loved ones will always come first, but a gift in your will can help girls go on to fulfil their potential, and pass on vital life skills for generations to come.

Please read through this booklet to see the impact your gift can have, and meet other supporters like you who have already chosen to support us in this amazing way.

I know that making or amending your will can seem complicated, so I've also included other useful information with this folder to hopefully make things easier for you.

If you have any questions, my team and I will be happy to help.

Thank you again.

Best wishes,

Sophia Stylianou

Gifts in Wills Manager, Plan International UK

# “I DON’T WANT TO MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE WITH KEYA THAT MY PARENTS DID WITH ME”

These are the determined words of Koli Ghosh, mother to 17-year-old Keya. The *‘mistake’* she refers to is being forced into marriage at the age of 16 by her mother – who herself married at just 13.

In Bangladesh, where the family lives, the marriage rate of young girls is eleven times higher than boys. They are forced to give up their education to marry and raise families, which can lead to girls experiencing violence, sexual abuse – even death in childbirth.

But that won’t happen to Keya now. Having access to education has given her the confidence to stand up for her rights. “Girls should make their own decisions. I make mine,” she firmly says. “I want to complete my studies and then think about marriage.”

The cycle of early marriage that families like Keya’s have been through would go on and on if it weren’t for kind supporters like you. And the wonderful thing is that the life lessons Keya has learned won’t just be passed down whenever she decides to have children – they’re passed up too. Her mother and her grandmother now realise what they’ve missed out on, and don’t want to see future generations of their family lead the same life they did.

**Thanks to supporters like you, Keya is in control of her life, and ready to achieve her goals. That’s the power of a gift in your will.**



**Breaking the cycle of early marriage:**  
Keya and Koli’s story shows how change can echo down the generations.

# TOGETHER, WE'VE ACHIEVED SO MUCH

**Our story began in 1937 during the Spanish Civil War, when we helped displaced children fleeing conflict.** Our founder, John Langdon-Davies, was the pioneer of child sponsorship. More than 80 years later, thanks to supporters like you, we're now helping children in over 50 countries.



## 1937

John Langdon-Davies recruits people to donate one shilling a day to help a child, and to send them letters and photos.

## 1940s

We worked in England during World War II, helping displaced children from around Europe.

## 1960s

Our focus shifted to South America and Asia, where children were living in poverty.

## 1970s

Our global name became 'Plan International' to reflect the breadth of our work.

## 1980s

We set up cereal banks and vegetable gardens to help millions of West Africans survive the drought.

## 2007

The launch of our Because I am a Girl campaign, striving for a fair and just world for girls.

## 2023/2024

We have supported 13,200 girls to return to education through our SAGE (Supporting Adolescent Girls' Education) programme in Zimbabwe.

# **TOGETHER,** **WE CAN CHANGE THE FUTURE**

Just like in 1937, children are still fleeing danger and seeking a better life. That's why we won't stop until we're simply no longer needed. Our ambitions are clear, and with gifts in wills from kind supporters like you, we can achieve them.

## **Equality for girls all over the world**

Poverty and inequality hits adolescent girls the hardest. So empowering girls is one of the best ways we can end poverty.

## **Young people empowered into successful adulthood**

We want to make young people a huge force for social, economic and political good.

## **Resilience in fragile communities**

We need to make sure that communities affected by disasters, emergencies and other humanitarian crises don't suffer.





**Julie and Geoff Doel, who have chosen to leave a gift to Plan in their wills.**

# “I JUST WANTED TO HELP MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE”

**For Julie, education is something every child should have, no matter what.**

After seeing children on the streets instead of in school during a trip to Harare, Zimbabwe, Julie and her husband Geoff were inspired to act by sponsoring a child with Plan. “Education is a child’s right. If they don’t have that, what kind of life are they going to have?” says Julie.

It’s that desire to help that’s led them to leave a gift to Plan in their wills, so that their support can impact the education of girls for generations to come. “It’s important to do something to ensure children get a good education. It’s about helping them to help themselves.”

# 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](mailto: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.

## 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.

## HOW CAN I WRITE MY WILL FOR FREE WITH THE NATIONAL FREE WILLS NETWORK?

To make will-writing more accessible for everyone, we have partnered with the National Free Wills Network to help you write your will for free. The [National Free Wills Network](#) works with thousands of solicitors across England, Wales & Scotland and will put you in touch with a local solicitor who can write your will at no cost to you. If you would like to be referred to the National Free Wills Network, please contact us.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.



# SUGGESTED WORDING

On this page you will find some information about the main types of gift you can leave to Plan International UK in your will and some suggested wording to show your solicitor for each type of gift. If you're unsure about anything, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you so much for your interest in leaving a gift to help vulnerable children.

## Different types of gifts

The main types of gifts to charities in wills are:

- **Residuary gift** – a percentage share of your estate after payment of specific and pecuniary legacies (see below) and any debts due. This type of gift keeps pace with inflation.
- **Pecuniary legacy** – a fixed sum of money. This type of gift does not keep pace with inflation unless you review your will regularly or your will links the gift with inflation.
- **Specific legacy** – a gift of specific items.

## RESIDUARY LEGACY

“I give (write in words) % of my estate to Plan International UK, Discovery House, 28-42 Banner Street, London EC1Y 8QE, registered charity number 276035 to be applied for the general purposes of that charity and I declare that an official receipt from the treasurer or other duly authorised officer of that charity shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors.”

## PECUNIARY LEGACY

“I give the sum of £ (write in words) to Plan International UK, Discovery House, 28-42 Banner Street, London EC1Y

8QE, registered charity number 276035 to be applied for the general purposes of that charity and I declare that an official receipt from the treasurer or other duly authorised officer of that charity shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors.”

## SPECIFIC LEGACY

“I give (insert description of items) to Plan International UK, Discovery House, 28-42 Banner Street, London EC1Y 8QE, registered charity number 276035 to be applied for the general purposes of that charity and I declare that an official receipt from the treasurer or other duly authorised officer of that charity shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors.”

## RESTRICTED AND UNRESTRICTED GIFTS

Unrestricted gifts are those which allow Plan to use the funds for any purpose. These are particularly valuable to us because they mean we can apply the money where the need is greatest.

Our suggested wording above would allow your gift to be used in this way.

Restricted gifts require the money to be used for particular areas of Plan's work. If you would like to help a particular project, country or region, then please get in touch to discuss this on 020 3217 0215. It may be possible to use a “letter of wishes”, which will enable Plan to respect your wishes whilst retaining some flexibility to use the money elsewhere if, for example, the project has been completed.

If you'd like to help a particular project, country or region then please get in touch to discuss this on **020 3217 0215** or at [legacies@plan-uk.org](mailto:legacies@plan-uk.org)



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