


leave a  
**LEGACY OF**  
**hope.**

a guide  
to leaving  
a gift in  
your will





# thank you.

Let me start by saying thank you!  
Thank you for thinking about leaving a gift in your Will to BLGC. Your kindness will help us to continue our fight to enrich the lives of local children and young people for years to come.

I hope this easy-to follow guide will help you write your will and understand how you can help BLGC do whatever it takes to see that every young person has the chance to be the best they can be.

Emma Hutchiinson  
CEO BLGC





# + yesterday.

The year was 1889, a time of great industrial and social change, and there was nowhere decent and affordable for the young people to hang out after a hard day at the mill. Five elders, local church leaders and industrialists came to the rescue, buying an old warehouse in Bark Street and opening a hostel where the young workers could wash, eat and sleep safely. Bolton Lads & Girls club (BLGC) was born. Though the mills are long gone, BLGC is still going strong welcoming over 4,000 young people through our doors every year, encouraging and inspiring them to explore their endless potential – but this wouldn't be possible without the generosity of people like you, helping to fund our vision and keep the BLGC dream alive.





Today we are driven by our mission to enable children and young people, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, to live happier, healthier and positive lives. We do this, by providing somewhere to go that's safe and modern, find something to do that's inspiring and engaging, make new friends, get a hot meal, or just talk with someone who cares and that wants to listen. We have some fantastic facilities, which span over 3 separate sites. That offer young people so many opportunities - Like multiple sports, creative arts, dance, music, and we even have a dedicated space for both employability and enterprise.

Our Targeted Youth Services provide support for a range of needs of children, young people and families offering a range of services including mentoring, bereavement counselling, support for young carers and



many other targeted services that focus on emotional health and wellbeing, mental health, building self-confidence, self-esteem and resilience. **All of these experiences... are completely free, positively impacting the lives of over 4,000 members, aged between 8 and 21.**





# forever?

We're on a journey here at BLGC, and it's one that's brimming with ambition and hope, but turning this vision into reality is no walk in the park. Did you know that just maintaining our current services costs us over £6000 every single day? That's right, and if we want to scale up and reach even more young people, we're facing a huge challenge. Here's the thing: 89% of our members come from disadvantaged backgrounds, and their numbers keep on growing. The need for our services has never been more urgent. We're talking about transforming lives, breaking barriers, and shaping brighter futures.

But here's where you come in. To keep our charity alive and thriving, continuing to provide essential services to young people, we depend on the incredible generosity individuals like you. Your support powers our mission, fuels our services, and helps us transform lives. Together, we can make a difference. and can create a brighter future for our young people. Because every child deserves the best chance in life.





“WE MAKE A LIVING  
BY WHAT WE GET  
BUT WE MAKE A LIFE  
BY WHAT WE GIVE”

WINSTON CHURCHILL

+

together  
we can do

**this.**

**£6,100**

Can fund all of our  
services for one day

**£25,000**

Can help us provide  
Mental Health & Wellbeing  
support to those who  
need it most

**£60,000**

Help leave a lasting legacy and  
support our mission to help  
children and young peoples  
mental wellbeing, today and for  
the future

**£100,000**

To help support our Mentoring  
Programme - helping children  
at home and children in care to  
gain the confidence, the  
resilience and the self esteem  
to thrive



# 3 + important reasons to write a will

It's the only way you can ensure that your loved ones and any causes you care about are provided for in the way you wish

If you don't have a will, your estate (money, property and possessions) is distributed under intestacy rules. Amongst other things, these rules mean that unmarried partners, friends and carers do not have an automatic right to inherit

Wills don't just cover property and finances; you can name a guardian for your children, entrust the care of your pets to someone, and leave instructions for paying for and arranging your funeral

At BLGC one of our aims is to encourage our children and young people to think about their wishes, future aspirations and to be better prepared for the future. The same can be said for future wishes to **get your affairs in order by ensuring your will reflects your wishes**



## Write or update your will with BLGC

We offer our supporters a range of free and discounted Will-writing offers – making it easier and cheaper to keep your Will up to date. To request details of our Will writing offers please call **01204 540 100** or email us at **Fundraising@blgc.co.uk** For more information you can also visit our website **www.blgc.co.uk/legacies**



# There are a number of services you can leave a gift in will should you have a preference here's what you can support.

## **Mental Health and Wellbeing Service:**

One-to-one therapeutic support to young people age 11-18 years old to improve their mental health and well-being.

**Bereavement Service:** The service is for young people and their families who have experienced bereavement and need extra support.

**Young Carers:** We provide advice, guidance and 1:1/ group support to young carers. Young carers are children and young people under the age of 18, who provide care to another family member usually an adult, who has a physical illness/disability; mental ill health; sensory disability; has problematic use of drugs or alcohol. The level of care they provide would usually be undertaken by an adult and as a result of this has a significant impact on their childhood.

**Mentoring Service:** Our 1-1 Mentoring programme offers children and young people support through a holistic approach, using action planning to help them to identify goals they would like to work towards. Mentoring can run for up to one year and young people are matched with a trusted adult to build self-confidence, self-esteem and resilience.

**Independent Visitor Service:** An Independent Visitor (IV) gives a child in care an opportunity create positive memories of childhood. They meet the young person they are matched with every two or three weeks to do activities that enrich their personal and cultural development.

**Family Assist Service:** Family Assist provides help and support to families who are struggling. Our Worker will draw up an action plan of targeted support and assistance and parents or carers to improve their family situation.







## Leaving a gift in your will to BLGC

We understand how important your family and friends are and that these people will always be considered first when you are writing your will. If you choose to leave a gift in your will to BLGC, we will spend the money you have donated where it will have the most impact; ensuring future generations lives are enriched.

We have had the below drafted up by a valued patron who run a successful Solicitors Firm. Please note, that it is recommended to communicate your intentions with the charitable organisation to ensure they are aware of your gift and can properly acknowledge your generosity.

### **Wording for gift of the residuary estate:**

I give the residue of my estate to [insert charity name and registered address and registered number] for its general charitable purposes. I further direct that the receipt of the Chief Executive or other proper officer of the said charity for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said gift.

### **Wording for a gift of a specific item or sum of money:**

I give the sum of £\_\_\_\_\_ (or the item specified) to [insert charity name and registered address and registered number] for its general charitable purposes. I further direct that the receipt of the Chief Executive or other proper officer of the said charity for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said gift.

Thank you for considering leaving a lasting legacy for the young people of BLGC. We understand that whatever you decide is an entirely personal choice, however many people do like to let us know that they are planning to remember BLGC in their will, and we are always here if you would like to discuss anything further.



# FAQ

## for gifts in wills

### **Why is it best to get a will written by a professional rather than writing it myself?**

We recommend that you use a reputable solicitor to ensure that your will is watertight and that no mistakes are made. Wills have to meet certain criteria and must be witnessed and worded correctly to make them valid, and it's also advisable to seek professional advice about inheritance tax, foreign properties or bank accounts, and circumstances which could make your will void in the future.

### **How long does it take to write a will?**

It can take as little as half an hour to write a straightforward will with a solicitor, yet gives you peace of mind for years to come, and provides reassurance to your loved ones that your wishes are recorded and will be carried out when the time comes.

### **Can I write a will with my husband or wife?**

Yes, married couples can opt to have mirror wills, which generally instruct that upon the death of one, everything will go to the other.

### **If I marry, will it affect my current Will?**

Yes. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, marriage (or remarriage) will normally invalidate your current Will. It is therefore very important that you make a new Will as soon as you marry.

### **When is it a good idea to update my will?**

If your circumstances change, such as if you get married or divorced, welcome children or grandchildren, move house, if your home changes in value significantly, or if an executor or a beneficiary named in the will dies.



### **I already have a Will; can I use the Free Wills Service to change it?**

If you simply want to include a gift to BLGC you don't need to change your whole Will; you can simply add to it using a form called a codicil, which can be downloaded below or obtained by contacting our Legacy team on 01204 540100

### **What happens on my death if I fail to make a Will?**

If you don't have a valid Will on your death, your personal wishes may not be implemented. The law will decide what happens to your estate. This may mean that your intended beneficiaries receive nothing. If you die intestate and without a living relative, your estate will go to the Crown.

### **How do I choose my executors?**

You can appoint a maximum of four executors and it is recommended that you should appoint at least two. Their role is to ensure that your wishes are carried out. An executor must be over 18 years old. We suggest that you should identify someone who you feel is reliable – most people choose members of their family as executors of their Will. Whomever you choose, you should ask them if they are prepared to serve as your executor before appointing them formally. It is also possible to appoint your bank manager, solicitor or accountant as executor, as this will avoid problems if your other executors die before you. However, professional executors are likely to charge a fee for their services.

+ yesterday  
**TODAY**  
forever.



find out more



enriching young lives

**01204 540100**

or email [fundraising@blgc.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@blgc.co.uk)