



make a will
make a
difference

LEGACY GUIDE



FRANCIS HOUSE
CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

Registered Charity No. 328659



When your child is diagnosed as having a life-threatening condition, your world collapses. Families who come to Francis House find that they are helped to ensure that short lives can be lived fully and in a way that leaves lots of happy memories.

David Ireland, Francis House Children's Hospice



Making a Will

Making a Will is something that we all know we should do – but we just put it off!

But it is so important to ensure that family and loved ones are properly provided for. Making a Will ensures that things are as straight forward as possible, so as to relieve stress at a difficult and emotional time.



Remember

- ⦿ You can never be certain what the future holds. By making a Will you can ensure that your money and possessions are distributed in accordance with your wishes.
- ⦿ When making a Will your loved ones and family should always be uppermost in your thoughts. Many people also like to remember a charity that is close to their hearts. Perhaps you might consider the families who use Francis House in your legacy.
- ⦿ Should your estate exceed a certain value you may be liable to pay Inheritance Tax when you die. With the surge in property prices, more and more homeowners are now in the Inheritance Tax band. A gift to a charity can avoid or reduce the amount of Inheritance Tax you may have to pay. A solicitor will be able to provide you with expert advice in this area.



Francis House - a home from home

Caring for a child with complex needs, often for 24 hours each day, puts a huge strain on the whole family, parents and children. Often there is very little support.

When families are referred to Francis House Childrens Hospice they often see it as a step too far; by admitting that hospice care is needed they are admitting that life is short.

In fact they become part of the Francis House Family, and the sick children come to see it as a holiday when they come for respite visits.

Francis House provides respite stays, daycare, hospice at home, groups for brothers and sisters and so much more. It is a happy place full of laughter and excitement.

But of course this all comes at a cost; this year we will need to raise five million pounds to keep our service going. Only 20% of our funds comes from government sources and we are faced with the daunting task of raising the money through voluntary donation.

Ninety two pence of every pound donated goes to the care of the families and we currently have 580 families on our roll.



As soon as we walked through the doors of Francis House it seemed like we were coming home. It was nothing like we imagined a hospice to be... it was so full of life and joy!

Please consider leaving Francis House a gift in your Will

It will be the gift that helps us make a short life the best that it can be.

At Francis House each family is treated individually. Our aim is to care for the whole family – parents and siblings included. Whilst hospitals focus on cure, the children's hospice focus is for those for whom a cure is unlikely. Holistic support is centred on comfort, quality of care and dignity for the individual.

By including a Legacy to Francis House, your gift will help families in the most dreadful of circumstances make their own precious memories.





What to do next

- ⦿ Making a Will isn't difficult or expensive but we would always recommend that you use a solicitor to prepare your Will. Only a Will that is correctly written is recognised by Law. It is not enough to just write down your wishes.
- ⦿ You can choose your own legal advisor, but during the month of September, Francis House works in association with Solicitors around the North West who will draw up your Will for a reduced fee which will be donated to Francis House.
- ⦿ For details of participating solicitors, please see our website www.francishouse.org.uk/will-month or telephone our fundraising office on 0161 443 2200.

Before visiting the solicitor write down a list of your assets and liabilities.

Assets

House
Savings/Building Society Accounts
Bonds and Trusts
Stocks and Shares
Insurance Policies
Pension Benefits
Furniture and Possessions

Liabilities

Mortgage
Overdraft
Loan Agreements
Car Finance Agreements
Credit Card Debts
Tax Due



There are three different types of gifts that may be made in a Will.

- ⦿ A pecuniary gift – this is a gift of a fixed amount of money.
- ⦿ A residuary gift – a gift of the remainder or part of the remainder of your estate once all other gifts and charges have been paid.
- ⦿ A specific gift of possessions such as antique furniture, jewellery, land or buildings. (These gifts can raise much needed funds dependent on their market values at the time of probate).

Please consider a gift to Francis House in your Will and help us to support families now and into the future.





If you wish to discuss anything further about making a Will or have any questions about Francis House please contact Rachael Taylor on 0161 443 2200 or email legacies@francishouse.org.uk

For more information on Francis House Children's Hospice please visit www.francishouse.org.uk



Some important details to give to your solicitor if you would like Francis House to be a beneficiary under the terms of your Will:
Francis House Family Trust,
390 Parrswood Road, Didsbury, Manchester M20 5NA

Registered Charity Number 328659