

Leaving a legacy to The Elizabeth Foundation



The Elizabeth Foundation: where deaf children learn to listen and talk

When The Elizabeth Foundation first opened its doors to five deaf children and their parents in 1981, we couldn't have predicted the ongoing significant demand for our services so many years later, nor the life-changing impact we would continue to have. But we are still here, still needed and still making a positive difference through our education and support programmes.

This guide tells you everything you need to know about leaving a gift to us in your Will. With your help, whatever communication challenges young deaf children face, we will be there in the future to give them the best possible start in life. Leaving a legacy to The Elizabeth Foundation is one of the most effective ways of helping us as a charity, enabling us to continue to support young children with all degrees of hearing loss and their families.

“The Elizabeth Foundation is about listening, about communication, about talking, about speech... So that a deaf child, as they grow up, can have a choice – and the world is far more open to them by having that choice.”

Dame Evelyn Glennie, CH | Virtuoso Solo Percussionist



Making a positive difference

Since 1981, The Elizabeth Foundation has grown to become the UK's largest single provider of specialist educational support services for deaf babies, toddlers and preschool children and their families. In 1985, work began on building our Family Centre in Hampshire. We could not have built this wonderful learning facility without two legacies from generous individuals.

Since then, legacies have not only helped us to continue to develop our Family Centre, but most importantly, to deliver our wide range of education and support programmes for the thousands of young children that have learned to listen and talk as a result of our charitable work.

We give each child a strong platform to start school, ready and able to learn and play alongside their hearing friends and to grow into independent, communicative and confident adults like Imogen (see below).



“The work that The Elizabeth Foundation do really is fundamental to the children that come here to enable them to learn to listen and talk, to have a good foundation for later on in life and to enable them to progress, just like I have, by coming here.”

Imogen | Former pupil and now a solicitor and Trustee of The Elizabeth Foundation

On our website you can watch Imogen presenting a series of short videos about leaving a legacy in your Will and how legacies help our work at www.elizabeth-foundation.org/help/legacies

With around 1 in 1,000 babies born deaf every year, and further young children deafened as a result of an accident or illnesses such as meningitis, there are many more deaf children that we can help with your support. It costs around £750,000 – £800,000 a year for The Elizabeth Foundation to provide outstanding audiology, education, and speech and language services to hundreds of families with young deaf children.

As demand for our services continues to grow, we have to consider how we can invest further in expert staff, technology and resources to help children with hearing loss and their families, whether at our Family Centre or through our national outreach programmes. At the same time, we have to continuously maintain our facilities at the highest standard to best meet the needs of our beneficiaries and to meet Ofsted and other quality care standards.

You can read all about our outstanding education and support programmes and the achievements of our deaf children on our website www.elizabeth-foundation.org

Why should you write a Will?

It is essential that individuals have a Will in place so they have a legal document recording all of their wishes. Having a Will can reduce the burden on the loved ones you leave behind and ensure that all your assets are dealt with in the manner you would have wanted them to be, with debts paid and items going to the people you wish to receive them.

Ensuring you have a legal document in place can also assist in terms of incorporating tax efficient measures within your estate. For example, leaving money to charity is free of Inheritance Tax and can, with the appropriate professional expertise and advice, reduce your overall Inheritance Tax liability if applicable. Difficulties can arise if someone dies without a Will because their Estate could pass under the Intestacy Rules which may not be what they would have wanted. This also has the knock-on effect that charities can miss out on legacies to enable them to continue with their charitable work.



“Please remember The Elizabeth Foundation and help their great work continue when writing your Will. My sister-in-law’s dream was to hear her daughter say ‘I love you mum’. Today, The Elizabeth Foundation makes this happen.”

Joan | A legacy giver

You can watch Joan explain more about why she supports our work at www.elizabeth-foundation.org/help/legacies

How to prepare a Will

We recommend that you consult a solicitor with appropriate experience of preparing Wills as it is probably the most important legal document you will ever have. It is therefore essential to make sure it is legal and valid, and properly expresses your wishes. Before preparing a Will, your solicitor will ask you to consider:

- The value of all your property and possessions
- Who you want to appoint as your executor(s) and trustee(s)
- Your funeral wishes
- Whether you would like to leave sums of money or specific gifts to a charity or individuals
- Who you would like to leave your residuary estate to

Can I decide how money is spent if I leave it to charity?

If you are thinking of leaving a legacy to The Elizabeth Foundation or other charities, you can give a fixed sum of money, a percentage, or the whole of your residuary estate. When you specify a legacy, if it is a monetary sum, you can specify that it is for generic charitable purposes (known as unrestricted), or you can put a request in your Will that it goes to a particular project within the charity. If you'd like to know more about the types of projects or areas of work you could fund here at The Elizabeth Foundation, please get in touch.

What information does my solicitor need?

If you decide to leave a legacy to The Elizabeth Foundation, you will need to give your solicitor our full charity name and address: **The Elizabeth Foundation, Southwick Hill Road, Cosham, Hampshire, PO6 3LL** and our registered charity number: **293835**, along with the terms on which you want to leave the legacy.

Can I give a legacy discretely?

You can give a legacy discretely. There is no obligation to inform The Elizabeth Foundation if you have left a legacy under the terms of your Will. However, if you choose to inform us it helps us with our future financial forecasts and we can also keep you updated with current projects and their progress. If you want to see the work that The Elizabeth Foundation does, you are welcome to visit our Family Centre – just let us know.

“Words simply cannot express the incredible impact The Elizabeth Foundation has had on our deaf son and on the rest of the family... making us realise that life with a deaf child can be more than just OK, it can be wonderful!”



Thank you!

Thank you very much for considering leaving a legacy in your Will to support our important work. Every year the need for our services is increasing and we rely on people like you to make a difference. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Address

The Elizabeth Foundation, Southwick Hill Road, Cosham, Hampshire PO6 3LL

Telephone

023 9237 2735

Email

info@elizabeth-foundation.org

Website

www.elizabeth-foundation.org

Registered Charity Number

293835