

Remember Tommy's in your Will

A Will is your gift to the people and causes that are important to you during your lifetime. It is also the only legally recognised way to make sure that your wishes are carried out after you pass away. Yet two-thirds of the population still fail to make a Will. Without one, your entire estate could go to the Crown, depriving your loved ones and favourite charities of your generosity. Even if you're married, living with a partner or have children, you shouldn't assume that they'll automatically receive your estate should you pass away.

Remembering Tommy's in your Will is an excellent way to support our work, which aims to give every baby the best chance of being born healthy. Every gift left to Tommy's in a Will can make a huge difference as charitable legacies are exempt from Inheritance Tax, meaning that every penny you leave to us will go towards giving babies the greatest possible start in life.

If you don't have a Will already, the best advice is to consult your solicitor. Making a Will is not complicated or expensive. If you don't already have a solicitor, visit the www.lawsociety.org.uk website where you'll find a list of recommended solicitors in your area who can make sure the correct procedure is followed.

Keeping your Will up-to-date

It is extremely important to keep your Will up-to-date. Otherwise, it may not reflect your wishes at the time of your death. At a time of sorrow, this could cause your family and friends even more heartache.

Whenever your circumstances change you should update your Will to reflect that. If you get married, have a child, become divorced or if your partner dies, you should amend your Will with a simple addition known as a Codicil.

This is a simple document that your solicitor can prepare.

To ensure that you don't encounter legal problems, you should ask your solicitor to draft any Codicils. You can also add a Codicil to include a legacy to Tommy's.

A few simple rules for Codicils:

- Do not cross out or write new instructions into your current Will as any changes will not be valid.
- As with the Will itself, you will need to have two witnesses to the signing and dating of the Codicil
- Keep the Codicil along with your current Will in a safe place.
- Send, or give, a copy of the Will and Codicil (in a sealed envelope, if you prefer) to your Executor or other trusted friend, with a note indicating where the original is held.

How to leave a legacy to Tommy's

If you've supported Tommy's during your lifetime, you can also leave a gift to us in your Will. Once provisions have been made for your family and friends there are several ways in which you could choose to leave a gift to Tommy's. Your solicitor will advise you on which suits your circumstances best. The list below shows the most common types of legacy gifts:

1. **Residuary legacy** – this is the remainder of your estate after all other bequests and expenses have been deducted. A residuary legacy has the added benefit of keeping pace with inflation.
2. **Pecuniary legacy** – this is a gift of a specified amount of money, for example £5,000. However, unlike a residuary bequest, inflation can reduce the value of a pecuniary gift.
3. **Specific legacy** – this is the gift of a specific item such as property, jewellery or other valuables.
4. **Donations in lieu of flowers** – you can request in your will that family and friends may make donations to Tommy's instead of sending flowers at your funeral.

How your legacy will help our work

Without funding, we will not be able to continue our pioneering research into the causes of miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth. Your legacy, however large or small, is vital to giving babies a better future. These are just some of the programmes your generosity could help.

- o £3,500 – could fund a grant for one of our research centres enabling them to meet other researchers, share results and ideas and build collaborative projects to improve pregnancy outcomes.
- o £10,000 – could pay for a research fellowship (PhD) for a year working on a project to prevent premature labour.
- o £40,000 – would pay for a pregnancy helpline midwife for a year, providing life saving advice to mums-to-be as well as reassurance and advice on everyday pregnancy concerns. Our midwives also provide support for parents who have suffered a miscarriage, premature birth or stillbirth.
- o £100,000 - would pay for a lifesaving medical research project aimed at reducing the incidences of miscarriage, premature birth or stillbirth.

continued overleaf

Information for solicitors

The suggested wording for a Residuary bequest is:

I GIVE the residue of my real and personal estate (out of which shall be paid my funeral and testamentary expenses and my debts) [and any property over which I have at my death any general power of appointment] (and such estate and the property which from time to time represents it is referred to in this Will as 'the Trust Fund') to my Trustees upon trust for Tommy's, the baby charity, of Nicholas House, 3 Laurence Pountney Hill, London, EC4R 0BB for its general purposes and absolutely.

The receipt of the person who appears to my Trustees to be the Treasurer or other proper officer of Tommy's, the baby charity, shall be a good discharge to my Trustees.

The suggested wording for a Pecuniary bequest is:

I GIVE to Tommy's, the baby charity of Nicholas House, 3 Laurence Pountney Hill, London, EC4R 0BB the sum of _____ pounds (£ _____) to be applied for its general purposes AND I DIRECT that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper officer of Tommy's, the baby charity, shall be good and sufficient discharge.

The suggested wording for a Specific bequest is:

I GIVE to Tommy's, the baby charity, of Nicholas House, 3 Laurence Pountney Hill, London, EC4R 0BB my _____ to be applied to for its general purposes AND I DIRECT that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper officer of Tommy's, the baby charity, shall be good and sufficient discharge.

Please note that making changes directly onto your Will can invalidate the whole document. We strongly recommend, therefore, that you consult your solicitor.

Once your Will is written and lodged you have the reassurance of knowing that all your affairs will be taken care of and your wishes will be carried out as you requested.

About us

- o Every 45 seconds a baby is born and every two minutes a baby dies through miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth.
- o The UK has the highest rate of premature birth in Europe. 50 percent of premature babies delivered before 26 weeks are born disabled.
- o One in four women in the UK will have experienced a miscarriage and often never know the reason why.
- o Premature babies born before 23 weeks only have a 17 percent chance of survival.

Tommy's believes every baby deserves the best possible start in life. We are committed to funding medical research and providing information to help more mums and dads through a healthy pregnancy and birth.

We sincerely thank you for considering to remember Tommy's, the baby charity, in your Will. Please note that the information above is not legal advice, for which we would advise you consult a solicitor.

Please also note that the wording of bequests may differ in Scotland. Your solicitor will be able to advise you on this.

Please complete and return this form to Tommy's, the baby charity FREEPOST LON1053, London EC4R 4BR

All information will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

Title (Mr/Ms/Mrs/Miss) _____ First name(s) _____ Surname _____

Home address _____

Full postcode _____

MY GIFT TO TOMMY'S

o I have left a donation in my Will to Tommy's

OR

o I intend to leave a donation in my Will to Tommy's

Signature

Date

We take data protection very seriously. We promise not to pass your details on to other organisations.

If you would prefer if we **do not** contact you by post, please tick here:

If you are happy for us **to** contact you by email, please tick here: