

“We don’t want to do something for children, we want to do absolutely the best we can.”

Benjamin Waugh, founder of the NSPCC

NSPCC registered charity numbers 216401 and SC037717. NS2180. 0437/12.  
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The NSPCC is a UK charity and only works in the UK.





... but take that innocence  
away and you might never  
get it back.”

Sharon Haugh, NSPCC Therapeutic team

**How a gift in your will could  
protect a child's potential.**

**NSPCC**   
Cruelty to children must stop. **FULL STOP.**

# They only get one chance at childhood...

I spend every day helping children who have suffered harm. Each year at the NSPCC we protect thousands of children and help so many others recover from painful and traumatic experiences. I wish there was no need for our work, but I'm proud of what we achieve.

Most people never even consider leaving a gift in their will to charity. We are so grateful to everyone who thinks of using their will to change the future for children who have no one else to protect them.

A gift in your will doesn't have to be large to make a difference. Just a small percentage of what's left after your loved ones are provided for could give a better chance in life to a child who has no one else to remember them.

This booklet explains how a gift in your will can help fulfil the NSPCC's vision of a world where every child is safe from the harm of abuse and neglect. It can give something truly priceless: the chance to fulfil the precious potential that every child is born with.

A child's world should be a magical place, full of joy and wonder. But take that innocence away and you might never get it back.



Once a child has been abused, those painful memories could scar the rest of their life. But when they're helped by the NSPCC, we can open the door to a more hopeful future.

I can't think of a better way for your kindness to live on than to leave a gift in your will to children through the NSPCC.

Sharon Haugh, NSPCC Therapeutic team

*If you want to leave a gift in your will to children through the work of the NSPCC, we recommend you speak to a solicitor about making the necessary changes.*

“There is always one moment in childhood where the door opens and lets the future in.”

Graham Greene, author



# Lisa's story

"Even before the sexual abuse started, things weren't exactly brilliant. We weren't fed properly – after school, we'd get a packet of crisps and maybe one biscuit for our tea. If you so much as tapped a foot watching TV, you'd be shouted at or hit.

Then, when I was 11, my older sister went into care. That's when my stepfather started to abuse me. I think if she hadn't gone into care it might not have happened. He knew we were close, and if she was at home I would have told her. But once she was in care I wasn't ever allowed to see her, so I had no one. I couldn't tell my mum because he told me she'd be locked up if anyone found out. In my own way, I was trying to protect her.

At school I'd shut myself off from people and found it hard to make friends. I felt like I was different from everyone else. It was a confidence thing – I wasn't loved at home, why would anyone else care?

The abuse stopped when my dad got me pregnant. I was 13. I lost the baby, which in a horrible way was a good thing because I would have hated it. Maybe it made him really see what he was doing. I've given up trying to understand.

I blamed myself for a long time. I've spent many years thinking there's something wrong with me. It took a long, long time to properly understand that it wasn't my fault and I didn't deserve it.

I'm in my 20s now, and it's only been in the last year that I've really started to recover, with counselling. I've come so far... I'm living life properly for the first time. I've got kids of my own and I'm married; we go out on bikes, take the kids up to the park. Just doing normal family stuff I could never enjoy before. I feel much more hopeful. But I still sometimes find it hard to accept that my husband loves me. I can't understand why he does. I think what I went through is a big part of why he supports the NSPCC. If anyone can do anything to help, it's so worth it. Support from the public could help ChildLine answer a call, or email, from a child going through what I went through. Or it could fund one of the NSPCC local services providing therapy and counselling to children who have been sexually abused."

\* This is a true story, but the name has been changed.

Thanks to donations including gifts in wills, we are now able to answer every contact from a child calling ChildLine.

“Be the change you want  
to see in the world .”

Mohandas Ghandi



# Your loved ones come first. Maybe you'll remember vulnerable children too.

The NSPCC wants what's best for children. We are the only charity focused on ending child cruelty across the UK. We offer help and advice to worried children and adults and provide services to those who need us most. For more than 125 years, our work has been driven by the simple belief that child abuse can and must be prevented. However, we know that it's widespread and often remains hidden. This is why we help children and families directly through our local services and bring immediate support through our national helplines. It's why we campaign for changes to the law and lead public debate.

None of this work would be possible without the kindness of those who support us.

Your loved ones come first. Your will allows you to take care of them, after you are gone. But you can also use your will to help secure a better future for vulnerable children.

You may feel that once you've made provision for the people you love, there will be nothing left of value. But in fact, a small percentage of what's left after you've made your gifts to your loved ones can go a long way to help protect children.

This kind of gift isn't devalued by inflation, no matter what happens to the economy, nor will it reduce what your loved ones receive. Many people find they can be more generous to the NSPCC in their will than they can ever be during their lifetime. It's because we are committed to ending cruelty to children that we encourage everyone to consider a gift in their will.

We understand that if you decide to leave a gift in your will to children it's a private matter, so we won't ask you to tell us. If you are already sure that you want to remember the NSPCC in your will, we always recommend that you speak to a solicitor about making this change. The correct wording, to make sure your wishes are carried out, is:

I leave [.....] to The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children of Weston House, 42 Curtain Road, London EC2A 3NH, registered charity numbers 216401 and SC037717.

Just a small percentage **big** difference

“One generation plants  
the trees; another gets  
the shade.”

Chinese proverb



# The NSPCC makes 10 commitments to anyone who remembers children in their will.

If you are considering leaving a gift to children in your will through the NSPCC, we want you to feel completely comfortable about it. These are our promises to you:

1. **We will always respect your privacy.** We recognise and appreciate that your will is completely personal to you.
2. We also realise that, rightly, your **family and loved ones will always come first.**
3. Because we are committed to making a difference to children, we always encourage people to leave something to the NSPCC. But we recognise that **it's your decision** and you need to make it **in your own time**.
4. You **can tell us** that you've left a gift if you want to, and we'd love to hear – but you **don't need to tell us, and we won't keep asking you.**
5. If you do choose to tell us, we will give you the **choice** about how we talk to you in the future about **our work with children.**
6. We will give you and your family as much choice as we can about **how and where** your gift will be used to make a difference for children through the NSPCC.
7. We will use your gift **carefully and cost effectively** so that it has the **greatest impact** for children.
8. We will give you the **opportunity to be connected** with the work we do. This work is only made possible by gifts like yours.
9. At any time in the future, you have the **absolute right to change your mind** about a gift in your will to the NSPCC.
10. We will handle whatever gift you leave us **efficiently** – and also with care, sensitivity and respect.

“We never stand  
as tall as when  
we kneel to  
help a child.”

Anon



# Thank you.

Thank you for thinking of the NSPCC in connection with your will, and for taking the time to read this booklet. I hope you're inspired by the thought that your will can really make a huge difference to children, who represent the future for us all.

If you'd like to, please get in touch to arrange a visit to one of our projects. You can use the contact details of my colleague who sent you this pack, or use the form. Seeing what we do and talking to people who work with children every day, may leave you stunned at the difference a little time, attention and care can make to a child.

Everything we do for children is only possible because people who care deeply support us. And because we're passionate about what we do, we always encourage people to use their will to protect children. I very much hope you'll consider remembering children with a gift in your will to the NSPCC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Haugh".

Sharon Haugh  
NSPCC Therapeutic team

A close-up photograph of a smiling baby with light blonde hair. The baby is wearing a light blue t-shirt with a large green lizard graphic on it. The baby is holding a blue plastic comb against their head. The background is a warm, out-of-focus indoor setting.

“When we learn to see life through the eyes of a child, that is when we become truly wise.”

Mother Theresa