



Your Guide
**TO LEAVING A GIFT
IN YOUR WILL**



**WRITE YOUR
forever thank you
TO AN NHS CHARITY**



Thank you

A forever thank you

IN YOUR WILL CAN CHANGE LIVES FOR YEARS TO COME

Thank you for asking about leaving a gift to Milton Keynes University Hospital in your Will.

We hope you'll find this guide interesting and inspirational. And we hope that it gives you a clear understanding of how the work we do makes a difference to patients, families, and staff at our hospital.

We've also included practical information about how to make and change your Will and the kind of things to consider when writing it.

As you'll see in the coming pages, gifts in Wills are very special to Milton Keynes University Hospital, so we hope you'll join the growing community of our supporters.

**WHY
LEAVING A
*forever
Thank you*
IN YOUR
WILL IS SO
PRECIOUS TO US**



**JOIN OUR
AMAZING
COMMUNITY
OF HOSPITAL
SUPPORTERS**

Whether it's giving birth, a minor injury or a serious medical condition, at some point in our lives we all need the support of our local hospital and the medical expertise it provides.

A gift in your Will to Milton Keynes University Hospital can help to fund the latest medical equipment, or to create a welcoming and inspiring environment for patients of all ages.

Your gift will go directly towards making a positive impact on the lives of generations to come.

Our fundraising enables wards and departments to go over and above what the NHS provides - funding items such as:

- State of the art equipment
- Comfort items for patients
- Special advanced training for members of staff
- Pilots for new patient experience initiatives
- New welcoming and positive environments for everyone treated in our hospital.

A gift in your Will is just one of many ways that you can choose to support the hospital, but it's a way for you to leave a lasting legacy to a cause close to your heart.

Gifts in Wills to the hospital do so much to help our patients, their families, and our amazing staff. However you want to support the hospital, every single gift is incredibly precious to us.



WHAT YOUR
forever thank you
CAN DO

Leaving a legacy to our hospital will help patients, families, and staff in many different ways.

In your Will you can specify where your gift will be used: either for a particular ward, department, or service, or wherever the need is greatest.

Here are just a few of the things that we've been able to achieve thanks to the generosity of our supporters:

Supporting cancer patients

Donations to our cancer centre help us provide many special extras that enhance patient experience – from comfortable reclining chairs for chemotherapy patients and snacks for patients on the ward, through to keeping our garden areas bright and colourful. These items all come from charitable support.

Transforming young patient experience

Enhancing the experience of young patients and their families on the children's wards through new artwork, play equipment and sensory items.

Helping save tiny lives

Through the Little Lives Appeal, £250,000 was raised to redevelop the neonatal unit and to provide life-saving equipment to babies born too early, too small or very ill.

Funding patient day rooms

Donations to our general fund have supported the transformation of Day Rooms on wards – spaces for patients and relatives to take time away from their bed or the ward, have a cup of tea and some quiet time. Most recently, we funded a special day room for dementia patients.



Why your Will

MATTERS TO YOU

Your Will may be one of the most important documents you ever write. That's because if you have last wishes, including them in your Will is a great way to be certain they're carried out. A Will is also an excellent place to record your funeral wishes.

Your Will can make sure that the right people get whatever you've decided to leave for them. It's a simple way to carry on looking after loved ones when you're no longer here.

If you die without a Will, the choices you've made may not actually be respected, and your loved ones could be left with a lot of difficult decisions to make, which could lead to considerable distress.

Finally, your Will can also carry on your support for causes that are close to your heart. By including a gift to our hospital in your Will you can write a forever thank you with a gift that will carry on making a difference, long after you're gone.

THREE TYPES OF

gifts to leave in your Will

These are the three most common types of gift to leave in your Will...

1

I'd like to leave what's left of my estate

After you've taken care of your family and friends and paid off any debts or taxes, you can gift either a portion or all of what's left – it's up to you.

For example, just 1% of what remains of your estate could make a real difference. Many supporters like this kind of gift because, as a part of your overall estate, it keeps its value over time.

2

I'd like to leave a specific amount

Another option is to leave a fixed amount of money, which you set aside in your Will. This type of gift is paid out before the residue of your estate is calculated. But over time, inflation can reduce its value and make it less impactful.

3

I'd like to leave a specific gift

A specific gift is a particular valuable item – like property, shares or a piece of jewellery.

With any of these types of gifts, you are free to restrict your forever thank you to a certain type of work we do. But, in fact, if you leave them unrestricted, it means we can use your gift to help where the need is greatest at the time.

If you would like to chat about restricting your gift, please email us at fundraising@mkuh.nhs.uk



Gifts in Wills AND TAX

The good news is that any gifts left to charities are exempt from Inheritance Tax. On top of that, sometimes by including a gift to a charity you can reduce the tax on everything else you leave behind. But Inheritance Tax is a complex and often-changing area of law, so we advise you visit www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax for all the latest information and speak to a professional.

YOUR *Will writing* CHECKLIST



Step 1

Make a list of your most valuable possessions. Remember to include any property you own, any savings or investments, as well as any valuable items like jewellery or paintings.

Step 2

Add up what you think they're worth. A rough estimate is all you'll need to help work out what gifts you'd like to make.

Step 3

Family and friends come first. Start by working out who you'd like to look after and what you'd like to leave them.

Step 4

Then remember causes close to your heart. Make a list of the charities you'd like to support and think about how you'd like to make those gifts.

Step 5

Choose executors and write your Will. Many people choose trusted family members as their executors. And there are many ways available to write your Will, from consulting a professional to completing a simple template or using one of a variety of online services that can guide you through the process and verify your document.

It's sensible to keep your Will in a safe place – and to tell your executors where it is. Many professional Will writers and solicitors offer to store your Will. Don't worry if your life or decisions change. It is simple to write a new Will that can change your instructions, or to update your Will using what's called a 'codicil'.

USE THIS HANDY TEMPLATE TO WRITE *your forever thank you*

STEP 1 & 2: List your valuable possessions and estimate their value

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

STEP 3: List what you'd like to leave to whom

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

STEP 4: List the charities you'd like to support and your gifts

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

STEP 5: List your executors

- 1
- 2

Now you're ready to write your Will

THE WORDING YOU NEED TO USE

in your Will



When you want to leave what's left of your estate

Subject to the payment of my debts, funeral and testamentary expenses, I give the whole/ _____ % of my estate not otherwise disposed of by this my Will to Milton Keynes Hospital Charity, Milton Keynes University Hospital, Standing Way, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes, MK6 5LD. Registered Charity No 1048297 for their general purposes and I declare that the receipt of its Treasurer or other proper officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge.

When you want to leave a specific amount

I give free of tax to Milton Keynes Hospital Charity, Milton Keynes University Hospital, Standing Way, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes, MK6 5LD. Registered Charity No 1048297, the sum of £_____ for their general purposes and I declare that the receipt of its Treasurer or other proper officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge.

*"We understand that this is a big decision, and are therefore so grateful to you for considering this incredible way of supporting Milton Keynes Hospital and writing your **forever thank you.**"*

Contact details:

Milton Keynes Hospital Charity,
Milton Keynes University Hospital, Standing
Way, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes, MK6 5LD.
www.mkhcharity.org.uk
fundraising@mkuh.nhs.uk
01908 996038



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