

# Why leave a gift to GDA in your Will?

Growing up in today's world can be challenging for any young person but for a young deaf person it can be an extremely lonely and daunting place to navigate.

Society moves fast, information comes at us from all directions and, as a hearing society, we take for granted how easy it is to absorb what is happening all around us without even knowing.

The result for a young deaf person is that they face a daily battle of knowing how to find their place in the world.

One in nine children who are born deaf, are born to hearing parents which often means the child will grow up in a predominantly hearing world. While this of course has benefits, it's important to remember that, at heart, the child is deaf.

We are seeing an increasing rise in mental health needs, especially in young people, where they struggle to find their identity and face social isolation and loneliness.

At GDA we work with young deaf people and their families to support them, introduce deaf role models and encourage a total communication approach. This exposure can have a positive impact and enable a smooth transition into adulthood. But we can't do it without the generosity of individuals who leave a gift to GDA in their Will.

We see every day just how capable children and young people living with hearing loss are. We know they can do anything they set their minds too. Our support is invaluable in supporting their journey to reach their full potential.

By choosing to leave a gift to GDA you will be leaving behind a legacy which will help ensure that future generations of young people will have the opportunity to grow; to achieve and make their mark on the world



If you'd like more information, contact us at wills@gda.org.uk

# How to leave a gift to GDA in your Will

There are three main ways in which you can leave a gift in your Will to GDA, and here they are...

### A fixed sum of money

If you wish, you can choose to leave a fixed sum of money, also known as a pecuniary gift.

You can choose any amount you like but it is worth remembering that if you do decide to leave this type of gift, it's important to review it from time to time as inflation can reduce its value.

## Gift a specific item

You may prefer to leave a specific item to GDA, such as an item of jewellery, an antique or even property.

If this is the case, it should be stated in your Will.

## A share of your estate

Many people choose to leave a share of their estate to charity - this can be a percentage of what is left over once loved ones are provided for or it can be any percentage you like.

As this gift is a proportion of your estate it keeps pace with inflation.

## **Key things to remember**

To leave a gift to GDA, you should ensure your Will states our full name, address and registered charity number:

Gloucestershire Deaf Association, Colin Road, Barnwood, Gloucester, GL4 3 L

Registered charity number: 1015937





# Frequently asked questions

#### Why do I need a Will?

By having a Will you are ensuring that your wishes are carried out after you have passed away. It is your chance to make sure that your loved ones are cared for, and perhaps if you wish, a chance to leave a legacy to a charity you care about.

Many will assume their partner will inherit their assets so don't feel the need to make a Will. However, if you are unmarried or are in a civil partnership, your loved one won't automatically inherit your assets like they would if you were married. To make sure your partner is provided for you can name them in your Will. If you don't have any family members to pass on your assets to, you may consider including a charity to benefit from your Will.

### What is an executor and why do I need one?

An executor is someone who looks after your Will once you have passed away, to ensure that your wishes are followed through. You can appoint a family member or a friend to be an executor, even if they are set to benefit from your Will.

Alternatively you can appoint a solicitor or financial advisor but note that there will be fees involved with this.

#### How do I make a Will?

reflects your wishes.

We suggest you use a solicitor to help you write your Will. If you are unsure as to which solicitor to use, have a look at www.solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk or you can contact the Law Society on 0870 606 2555.

#### How much does it cost to make a Will?

The cost varies between solicitors and also the complexity of the Will. However, as rough guide you could be looking at a cost of £100 plus VAT for a straightforward single Will.

### Why should I keep my Will up to date?

It is important to keep your Will up to date to factor in any changes in your circumstances - for instance if you have a child or you move home, or your financial situation changes. It's also advisable to reconsider your Will from time to time to ensure it still



