



## Gifts in Wills FAQs

We understand that choosing to leave a gift to charity in your Will can often raise many questions. Some of the more frequent questions our supporters have are answered below, which we hope you will find helpful.

If you have any questions not included below then please do contact us using the details at the end of this document, or speak with your legal professional.

### **What information will my solicitor need?**

Your solicitor will need our full charity name, registration number, and address as below:

Book Aid International  
39-41 Coldharbour Lane  
Camberwell  
London, SE5 9NR

Registered charity number: 313869

Your solicitor will also need to know the type of gift you wish to leave.

### **What types of gift can I leave?**

The most common types of gift you can choose to make are:

**Residuary gift:** This is the residue (or a share of the residue) of your estate. Residue is whatever is left after all debts, other costs, tax and any other gifts have been deducted.

**Pecuniary gift:** This is a fixed sum of money.

**Specific gift:** This is a particular named item such as a piece of jewellery, art or shares.

**Reversionary gift:** This is where some or all of your assets are held in trust, and can be used by a named individual during their lifetime. Following their death, the trust assets are passed on to reversionary gift recipient.

### **Do I need to write a new Will?**

**If you already have a Will** then the easiest way to include a gift to Book Aid International may be to add what is called a Codicil – this is a small legal note or addition to your existing Will. This may be the best option for you if the inclusion of the gift is the only amendment you wish to make. However, it may sometimes be more cost-effective to write a new Will. We recommend you seek guidance from a legal professional.

**If you do not have a Will**, or wish to write a new Will, then we suggest you speak with a solicitor or reputable Will-writing service.

[The Law Society](#) can help to find a solicitor in your local area, as can [Citizens Advice](#).

### **Can you provide example wording for my Will?**

When meeting with your legal professional, the following example wording can be suggested.

**For a residuary gift:** “I give the whole/\_\_\_% of my estate not otherwise disposed of by this Will to Book Aid International, 39-41 Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell, London SE5 9NR (Registered Charity Number 313869) for its general charitable purposes. I further direct that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper office of Book Aid International for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge of the said gift.”

**For a pecuniary gift or specific gift:** “I give free of tax the sum of £\_\_\_\_\_ (or the item specified) to Book Aid International, 39-41 Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell, London SE5 9NR (Registered Charity Number 313869) for its general charitable purposes. I further direct that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper office of Book Aid International for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge of the said gift.”

**Reversionary gift:** Please speak directly with your hired legal professional if wishing to leave a reversionary gift.

### **Can I leave a gift to a specific country or area of Book Aid International’s work?**

If you wish, you can make specific requests regarding the direction of your legacy. However, please bear in mind that by the time your gift is fulfilled, the scope of Book Aid International’s work, or the countries in which we operate, could have moved. If your legacy is too specific, it may make it difficult for us to fulfil your gift and it may not reach us. Therefore, the direction of your gift, if any, is best described as a wish, for example:

‘This gift is for the general purposes of Book Aid International, with a wish that it be directed to the works of that charity in Malawi’.

If you chose not to specify a direction, please be assured that Book Aid International will make sure your gift is used where it is most needed and will have the greatest impact.

### **Can you recommend me a solicitor?**

We do not recommend individual solicitors but you can find a solicitor through [The Law Society](#) or [Citizens Advice](#) website. Alternatively, we’ve recently partnered with [The Goodwill Partnership](#) which offers a solicitor-provided home visit Will-writing service. More information can be found on their website. Please note there is absolutely no obligation to leave a gift in your Will to Book Aid International if you decide to use their service.

### **Where can I find more information on including a gift in/writing my Will?**

If you have any other questions regarding your Will then we recommend you speak with a legal professional. You may also find the following websites useful:

#### [HMRC](#)

More information about the tax relief available when you leave a gift to charity in your Will.

#### [Citizens Advice](#)

Citizens Advice offer a range of advice on making a Will, including finding a local solicitor.

**The Law Society**

The Law Society can help you find a local solicitor.

If you have any other questions please contact us at [david.lacey@bookaid.org](mailto:david.lacey@bookaid.org) or on 020 7733 3577.