

## **Will writing – Frequently asked questions**

### **Why do I need a will?**

- So that your wishes will be met.
- To make sure your estate goes to the people you care about and the causes close to your heart.

### **What happens if I don't have a will?**

- The law sets out where your estate goes if you die without a will. It might not be to the people you want to benefit.

### **Am I too young to write a will?**

- If you have young children or other dependents, a will can convey your wishes about who looks after them.

### **Where do I start?**

Imagine you had died yesterday.

- What have I got? House, contents, car, savings etc.
- Who do I want to have it? Family, friends, charity.
- Who is going to organise everything for me? Your executors – who to choose?

### **I don't own much, do I still need a will?**

- If you own your home and have any savings, you might be surprised by what it all adds up to

### **Do I need a solicitor?**

- You can create a DIY will, but any errors or omissions might make it much more expensive in the long run.

### **How can Moorfields Eye Charity help?**

- A free, no obligation chat with our legacy team to answer any questions and guide you through the process.
- A free will writing toolkit with lots of practical help.
- Two free, no obligation will writing offers.

## **What's in the toolkit?**

- A will planner to set out your will wishes.
- A letter of wishes for smaller and less valuable items.
- A record of personal documents to set out all the details your executor/s will need when the time comes.

## **What about the free will writing offers?**

**Online through Bequeathed** – a simple step by step process to write a will, which includes a half hour consultation with a solicitor, or you can record a video setting out your circumstances and will wishes.

**Face to face through The Goodwill Partnership** – A trained counsellor will visit you at home to take your will instructions, which are then conveyed to a solicitor to write your will.

## **If I have a will written for free, do I have to include a gift to Moorfields Eye Charity?**

No, you don't, but we would of course be delighted if you do choose to do so.

## **Can I add a gift to Moorfields Eye Charity to my existing will?**

- You can do this by way of a Codicil, but we suggest you seek professional advice before making any changes to your will.
- Please don't write any changes on your original will as this may render it invalid.

## **Who can I ask to witness my will?**

- Your witnesses must be 18 or over and shouldn't be included in the will or married to anyone included in the will.

## **What about reading the will before I sign it?**

- If you are affected by severe sight impairment, it's important to make sure you have the right attestation clause in your will – this states that the will was read out to you in the presence of the witnesses, and you know exactly what you're signing.

## **How do I find out more?**

- Visit our website [www.MECwills.org](http://www.MECwills.org)
- Call our legacy team on 07565 654688
- Email [Jacqueline.birch1@nhs.net](mailto:Jacqueline.birch1@nhs.net)