

AFK

working with disability
creating opportunities



WHAT ARE
THE 'LITTLE
BIG
MOMENTS
OF YOUR
LIFE?

Let them inspire you to leave a gift in your Will,
and be the 'little **BIG**' difference in the lives of
children who identify as disabled or neurodiverse.

A gift in your Will can empower another Matthew.

Matthew has autism. He lacked confidence in himself and thought he would never be able to get a paying job, but with AFK's support he is now working and is pursuing his ambition to work in the arts.

I felt I was able to do something with myself. AFK made me feel more confident as a person.

In all our lives, it's the **little** things that are often the **BIG** things.

The BIG moments may get our attention at the time, but it's the everyday, little things that often make the lasting, most treasured memories.

The mischievous antics of a family pet... the day you first whooshed down a hill on your bicycle... epic family game nights together... the kind gesture of a neighbour in a moment of need... a grandchild's funny first attempt at baking.

These are the kind of moments that often end up being the most meaningful. And as time goes on, it becomes clear that they aren't just short-lived moments, but the heart of stories we remember and cherish.



Your Will is a wonderful place to celebrate those moments. Providing for your loved ones, so they can make more memories themselves in the future. **And what's wonderful, is that you can do the same for children and young people who identify as disabled – or neurodiverse – for many years to come. Supporting them to live life on their terms.**

We've put this guide together to show you how writing or amending your Will is even more straightforward than you may think. And we're always here if you have any questions – no matter how little or BIG! You can talk to us on **020 8347 8111** or by emailing us at **info@afkcharity.org**

Thank you on behalf of all the children, young people and families we support at AFK. It means so much to us all.



1991

We started small

Who could have imagined that one woman's little act of kindness would go on to make such a big difference to so many children's lives.

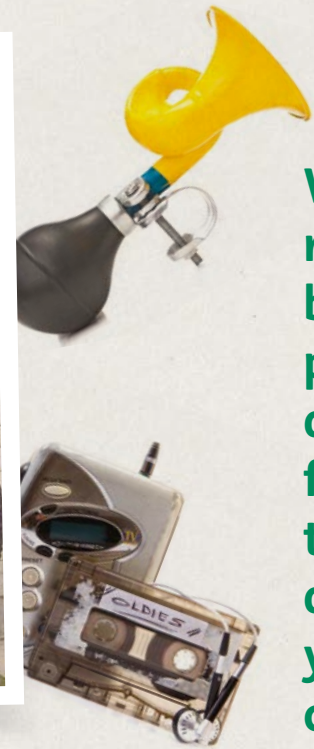


It was 1991 and Sally Bishop was determined to raise the money needed to buy a powered wheelchair for her neighbour's disabled son – knowing how it would completely transform his life, and help him become everything he could be.

Setting up 'HQ' in her front room, she began making calls to people who might be able to help and soon had enough donations to buy the chair. But this was only the beginning. In the next few months more families would contact her for help and in 1992 Action for Kids was formed.

With the help of supporters, the charity continued to grow to meet the many calls for help – eventually expanding to include a maintenance programme and is one of the only charities in the UK to help fund repairs to the mobility equipment it provides. AFK also supports young people to realise their ambitions through a far-reaching programme of employment support training and job coaching.

We believe in removing the social barriers that disable people from living an engaged and fulfilling life. We tell all our students and young people: you don't need to change; society does.

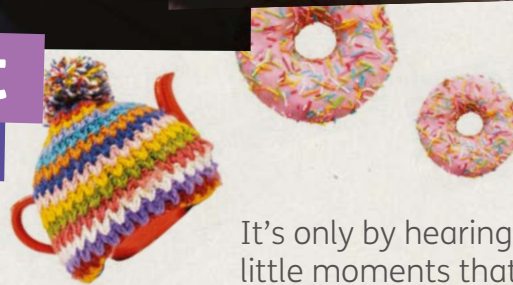


Sally retired in 2012 and collected a well-deserved OBE later that year. However, the work of AFK, as it's now known, goes on and the charity is as dedicated as ever to empowering disabled children and young people.

We've already been supporting children and young people for decades. With your help, we'll be here to support them for many more.



Our 'little **BIG**' support will be in demand more than ever



Here at AFK, we believe every child deserves the chance to follow their dreams, and we're determined to help them do it. But demand for our support will continue to rise in the years to come – so much so that we will be constantly faced with closing our waiting lists, because they're growing so much.

We never want to be in a position to say 'no' to any child or young person who needs us. That's why we depend on very kind people like you, who choose to leave a gift in your Will.

Your kindness and forethought, will help us to always be ready to meet with families and children, whenever they reach out to us in the future – to get to know every little thing that makes them the remarkable individuals they are.

It's only by hearing about the little moments that make up their day-to-day life, that we can give them the BIG support they need. Perhaps they dream of riding a bicycle, for instance. Or maybe they want to take their first step in a career in hospitality. It may simply be that they want to be able to join their family on walks in the countryside.

Wherever they want to get to in life, a gift in your Will can help give them the support they need – for as long as they need it.



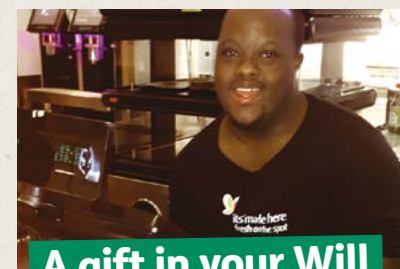
A gift in your Will

can help provide specialist mobility equipment not available on the NHS.



A gift in your Will

can help offer job coaching and work placements to young people with disabilities or who are neurodiverse.



A gift in your Will

can help give the young people of tomorrow the confidence, support and opportunities they need.

little or **BIG**... the gifts in your Will mean everything.

Your Will is much more than just a legal document. It's a lasting statement about who you are and what you care about. It's your way of making sure that your possessions go to the people you love and the good causes you support – like AFK.

A gift in your Will can empower another Aaliyah

AFK and people like you have supported me so much.

I got diagnosed with autism when I was in Year 7, and I have other learning difficulties too. I find that when I speak to others, or I meet new people, sometimes they don't understand me. It affected my confidence a lot.

I feel really happy that AFK have helped me feel comfortable. They've helped to find a job that's right for me.

My Job Coach Warda helped me to work on my communication skills and projecting my voice. We practiced for interviews and job applications. Now I have a placement as a bar assistant. I will be serving people drinks and chatting to them. I never thought I could do that.

AFK and it's supporters helped me believe in myself.

It means everything to know that you're thinking about supporting us in this very special way. In fact, gifts in Wills are at the heart of our charity.

As you can imagine, much of the equipment we provide to young people, that isn't available on the NHS, can be very expensive – as is the upkeep and maintenance. But it can completely change their lives and give them the independence they deserve. By including a gift to us in your Will, you will be helping to give this amazing support to even more young people for many years to come.

And even when you are no longer here, your kindness will live on by helping to give young people their vital first steps into the workplace.

Our specialist Job Coaches provide skills training and real-world work experience, which can lead to exciting job opportunities and support into paid employment.

Your generous gift will also help AFK plan for the future. As the world changes, we will need to change with it. Making sure that the support we give to disabled and neurodiverse children and young people is precisely what they need to live their very best lives.

Once you've looked after your loved ones, even just a small percentage of your estate could make a BIG difference to our vital work.

It might only take a little of your time.



Making your Will – or updating it – can feel like it will be a BIG task. You might even think that you don't need one. However, the truth is that everyone, no matter their age or situation should have one, and it's a lot simpler than you might think.

So, where to start?

We would always recommend that you chat to a solicitor or professional Will writer. Do get in touch with us if there's any help you need finding a solicitor in your area.

Before your meeting, there's plenty you can do to prepare – which could save you time and money in the long run. Here's our 5-step plan:

Step 1. First, put together a list of everything you own.

This list should include the obvious things – like your home, your car – but also any savings and investments you may have as well as items such as jewellery or record collections.

Step 2.

Then make a second list of everything you owe.

This might be everything from your mortgage through to any outstanding balances on credit cards or overdrafts.

Step 3.

Next estimate the total cost of your estate.

'Estate' may sound rather 'grand'. However, it just means everything that you'll be leaving behind in your Will. The easiest way to estimate it is by taking the cost of what you owe from the cost of everything you own.

Step 4.

Decide who you'd like to benefit from your Will.

This is the exciting bit, where you can think about all the 'little BIG' moments you want to create with your kindness. Think about loved ones, friends, and the charities and causes you care about the most, like AFK.

Step 5.

Choose who your executors will be.

Again, this is simply a technical term for the people who will be legally responsible for making sure your wishes are carried out when you're no longer here. So, you'll need to choose a person/people you trust and ask their permission.

A gift in your Will can empower another Lacey



Hi! I'm Lacey, I'm 11. I love drawing and gaming with my friends. I like to draw characters, and I always have my sketchbook with me. It's really fun actually. Even in my games, I'll always be building or crafting things to relax!

I used to skateboard, but since my leg issues started I had to quit, which sucked because I like to go really fast! That's why it was amazing when AFK helped me get my bike.

Mum got in touch with AFK because she wanted me to still go out and play with my friends. Then AFK and their supporters helped me get the bike and it's amazing – I can go so fast on it!

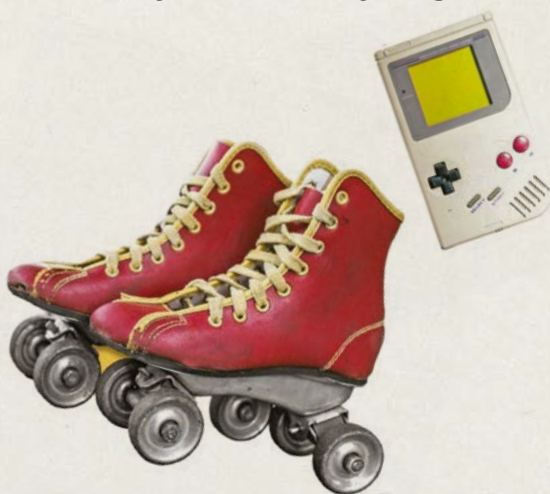
My dream when I grow up is to make friends with everyone in the world! And one day be a famous designer. My mum still talks to AFK and I know they will help me with that too!

We're here – for the little questions and the **BIG** ones.



If you talk to someone who's made a gift in their Will, they'll often tell you that it was much simpler than they thought – and they wish they had done it sooner. In fact, there's more than one way to do it, so you can make sure that it's absolutely right for you and that your loved ones are provided for first.

You can tailor it to suit your needs. Generally speaking, there are four key ways in which you can make your gift:



1. A pecuniary gift.

This simply refers to a gift where you are leaving a specific sum of money.

2. A residuary gift.

This is where you leave a percentage of your estate to a charity – once any other taxes and costs have been covered. Some people choose to leave just a small percentage – every gift makes a difference.

3. A specific gift.

This is a gift where you name an item you would like to leave to a charity – for instance, it might be a work of art, some stocks and shares or a piece of furniture.

4. A reversionary gift.

Here you are leaving a specific asset... such as a house. Something that can be used by a beneficiary of AFK during their lifetime, after which it will revert to AFK.



“So, what are the ways in which I can choose to make a gift in my Will?”

“My Will has already been written. Is it possible to update it... rather than completely rewriting it?”

Yes. If the changes are straightforward, you can download and complete a codicil form at afkcharity.org/give-in-your-will. It's always worth talking to your solicitor about your wishes and the best way to achieve them.

“How would I actually word my gift?”

A solicitor can help you with the precise wording to best reflect your wishes. However, here is an example to guide you:

I give XX% of the remainder of my estate/£(cash amount) to AFK, 12 Martin House, Regis Road, London NW5 3EW. Charity registration number 1068841 – for its charitable purposes.

“Can I make a gift towards a specific area of AFK's work?”

Yes, of course. If you'd like to chat about your wishes – or if you have any other questions – please get in touch with our team on **020 8347 8111** or by emailing us at info@afkcharity.org



A gift in your Will can help a child or young person to be independent

Getting around and living independently is vital to anyone, so specialist equipment like wheelchairs can be crucial. With your help, we will be able to provide and maintain more devices than ever. Meaning that if a battery

dies or tyres need replacing, AFK will always be here as one of the only charities in the UK to get young people mobile again through funding maintenance for the life of their equipment.

A gift in your Will can change lives in the future

Life is about much more than just 'existing'. That's why, with your help, we want to empower more young people to discover where they want to be in life, doing what they want to do. The number of young people we have supported into a job is the highest since

we began helping people into work several years ago. We will continue to close the disability employment gap now and into the future thanks to your support.


'little BIG' support




**Want to chat further about
leaving a gift to AFK in your Will?
We'd love to hear from you.**

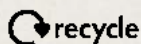


Telephone 020 8347 8111

Email info@afkcharity.org

Online afkcharity.org/give-in-your-will

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Registered charity no. 1068841



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REGULATOR**