

# Leaving a legacy of **Hope**

Your greatest gift to the next generation can be the power of **education**. By leaving a bequest in your will to **A Start in Life**, you can allow us to continue to help educate young Australians.



## Interesting Facts

- **There's no such thing as a free education.** The cost of a primary school education in an Australian public school is estimated to be between \$3,500 and \$5,000 per year – and there are many families in this country who simply can't afford it.
- **Many of the children we support are being raised by grandparents** who struggle with the unexpected financial burden of having to do so.
- **If you're 18 years or older** you can, and should, make a will, especially if you own significant property.

**A Start in Life** is proud to have provided resources to help young Australian students reach their potential since 1923.

To find out more about our work or to donate, please visit our website at

[www.astartinlife.org.au](http://www.astartinlife.org.au)



# Thank you for considering making a bequest to A Start in Life

Leaving a gift in your will is a great way to support the vital work A Start in Life does. An increasing proportion of our work is funded by generous bequests people have made in their wills.

We do not receive any government funding. By making a bequest to A Start in Life you will be equipping the less fortunate of Australia's next generation with the skills and education they need to succeed. Your legacy will live on in the next generation of our young Australian students, changing their lives for the better and enabling them to contribute to the wellbeing of their families and their communities.

## How to make a bequest

The most common ways to leave a gift to A Start in Life in your will are a **pecuniary bequest** or a **residuary bequest**. If you already have a will you can add your gift in a Codicil – your Solicitor or Trust Officer will be able to advise you on how to do this.

A **Pecuniary Bequest** is a gift of a specified sum of money, which your executor must pay before distributing the balance (or "residue") of your estate. When you revise your will, it is a good idea to review your pecuniary legacies and adjust them for inflation.

An example of the wording of a **pecuniary** legacy is:

*I give, free of any relevant duties, a legacy of \$ ... to the charity known as A Start in Life, presently of Suite 702, 370 Pitt Street Sydney New South Wales, absolutely for the general charitable purposes of that organisation; and I direct that the receipt in writing of the Secretary, Treasurer or Public Officer of the charity for the time being shall be an absolute discharge to my trustee.*

A **Residuary Bequest** is a gift of whatever is left in your estate after the payment of legacies and expenses. The residue can be divided up in percentages among more than one beneficiary, as long as the will deals with all of it – again, you should get your own legal advice about this.

A **residuary** gift is generally worded like this:

*I give the whole (or ... per cent) of the residue of my estate, free of all relevant duties and after payment of all my just debts, funeral and testamentary expenses [and legacies if any], to the charity known as A Start in Life, (as above).*

## Getting the right advice

Your will is a significant document and it is important that you get it right. We cannot offer legal or financial advice and for ethical reasons we cannot refer you to particular advisers. If you don't already have your own solicitor, the professional body in your State or Territory is able to help you find one, or you can contact your nearest State or Public Trustee office.

## Thank you

The number of children we fund and support is limited only by the foresight and generosity of our donors and corporate partners. Further support is very much needed, and bequests are gratefully accepted and faithfully applied.

If you have decided to leave a bequest to A Start in Life, please let us know because we would like to thank you personally. Letting us know also gives us an idea of how many people are planning to leave gifts in their wills, which helps us to plan for the future. We encourage you to contact us for more information on how you can make a positive impact on a young Australian's life.

Our aim is to assist young Australian's, who are in necessitous circumstances, to overcome barriers to their education and enable them to reach their full potential



## Important tips

- You should discuss your wish to make a bequest with your family and loved ones, so they are aware of your intentions.
- Get professional advice from a lawyer or the State or Public Trustee. Often "do-it-yourself" wills contain mistakes that have serious consequences later on.
- Update your will regularly to reflect the changes in your life, especially marriage and separation, children and so on.

**IMPORTANT:** This brochure is provided by A Start in Life for general information only and nothing contained in it should be construed in any way as amounting to legal or financial advice, whether generally or personally. Before making a bequest to A Start in Life you should carefully consider your individual circumstances and act on your own independent advice obtained from suitably qualified professionals.

