



# A guide to remembering OzChild in your Will

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## About OzChild

Since 1851 OzChild has been committed to delivering quality services which make a real and lasting difference to Australian families to ensure all children and young people are safe, respected and nurtured to reach their full potential.

OzChild is committed to improving the lives of at-risk children, young people and families in our community, delivering evidence-based programs to achieve better outcomes, strengthen and repair relationships to build a brighter future for young Australians.

**“It is no longer good enough for a child to only get what is available. We strive to give a child what is needed and what the evidence says works.”**

**Dr Lisa J. Griffiths**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**OzChild**

# How we make a difference

We work hard every day to provide a better future for those in our care with the belief that every child and young person deserves the chance to shine.

We are focused on providing support for children and young people in foster or kinship care and keeping families together where possible through the delivery of evidence-based programs and services aimed at strengthening and repairing relationships.

OzChild was one of the first non-government organisations to introduce evidence-based programs to Australia and have a proven record of working collaboratively with government to allocate investment in innovative solutions to achieve better outcomes for vulnerable children, young people and their family members.



## Our vision

It is our goal to see that all children and young people are safe, respected and nurtured, and reach their full potential.



## Our purpose

We support vulnerable children and young people by providing healing, preventing abuse and neglect, and strengthening families.

# What is a bequest?

A bequest is a gift of money, stock, bonds or assets that occurs upon the owner's death, and is transferred through the terms of their Will.

Bequests are critical to OzChild and the children, young people and families we support. Leaving a gift in your Will to OzChild enhances your commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people, sharing our vision to see that all children and young people are safe, respected and nurtured, and reach their full potential.

There are several types of bequests:

- specified amounts of money
- items of property stocks and shares
- a percentage of an Estate
- or the remainder of an estate once family, friends and taxes are provided for.

## The impact of a bequest

**Dr Lisa J. Griffiths explains the impact leaving a gift in your Will can have.**



As a non-government organisation, the nature of our work in child welfare means we often witness some of the most heartbreaking circumstances that children and young people can endure. However, the generosity of those who share our commitment to improving the lives of at-risk children and young people and support our work through regular or occasional donations is truly heartwarming.

Sometimes this generosity comes as a donation left in a Will (also known as a bequest). Such gifts can come from past donors, those without the means to donate during their lifetime, long-time supporters, volunteers or those who simply have a quiet resolve to improving the lives of at-risk children, young people and families in our community. Regardless of the circumstance, it is always a privilege for us to be entrusted with such a gift to continue to provide a brighter future for those in our care; we believe, it is no longer good enough for a child to only get what is available, we strive to give a child what is needed and what the evidence says works, but we can't do that without you.

**I thank you for considering making a bequest to OzChild. Leaving a gift in your Will is a generous and lasting legacy that will make a real difference to the lives of at-risk children and young people, giving them the chance to shine.**

# Your bequest makes a difference

## The need...

Staff based at OzChild's office in Frankston deliver a variety of family services, including foster care. Often the need to meet with parents or carers at the office arises and the children in their care attend alongside them. The children's room at OzChild's Frankston office was far from a suitable space to host parent/carer meetups with children in tow.

The room was drab and uninviting, and the toys available for kids to play were not appropriate for children who have experienced trauma, have developmental delays and who also have sensory auditory issues, making it really difficult when staff were trying to engage with families.

Without a safe, fun, family friendly space, meetups onsite were a challenge, to say the least, and could have a significant impact upon the case workers ability to engage effectively with parents/carers.

Children were observed to become heightened and bored when attending the children's room which resulted in staff having to end important meetings with parents/carers as the children were unable to settle and there was not the sensory items available to assist children to self-regulate.

We needed a space where all young children who visited were able to experience a warm and nurturing environment in which they could engage in a fun and positive experience.

## A generous gift in a Will becomes a savior...

Raising concerns about the need for a more suitable space, staff were searching for a way to update the room to ensure children who have experienced trauma and have developmental delays and their carers were better accommodated when OzChild was fortunate enough to receive a bequest donation of \$10,000.

A bequest is double-edged, tinged with both sadness and appreciation. In the heart of loss, we turn to how a loved one's legacy can be celebrated; the impact a gift in a Will can have in the lives of the vulnerable and disadvantaged can be significant.

**With the \$10,000 bequest received we were able to put \$6,000 towards rejuvenating the children's room:**

- \$4,500 purchased sensory and developmental items and furnishings for the children's room at the Frankston OzChild office.
- \$1,500 restocked art/craft and sensory items to be used in the children's room.
- The funding allowed OzChild staff to provide a safe and secure place where children can play and/or rest whilst attending the OzChild office with parents/carers.

The remaining funds from the bequest were used to support a foster carer who required a seven-seater vehicle for a couple of months to support her with her placements. The bequest funded two months of rental car hire fees until such time as we secured a car from a corporate partner.

# Your Will is crucial

Your Will is one of the most important documents you'll ever prepare, allowing you to control your affairs, leaving no uncertainty for loved ones during their time of grief.

## Your Will ensures:

- Your wishes are accurately carried out after your passing
- Your assets are distributed to the people and causes you care about
- Your loved ones won't have to make difficult decisions about the distribution of your Estate.

If you don't have a Will, decisions will be made according to State law. Consequently, some of the people and causes you care about may not be included.

**Important: information in this brochure should NOT be construed as legal advice. We strongly suggest you seek your own legal advice when preparing a Will.**

## Preparation

Whenever the time is right for you, we strongly suggest you seek your own legal advice from a practicing solicitor, trust company or professional advisor.

If after considering family and loved ones, you choose to leave a gift to OzChild, no matter how big or small, it will be gratefully received.

Your gift would help us to plan for the future, ensuring we have the funds to continue our life-changing work.

### I already have a Will, how do I include OzChild?

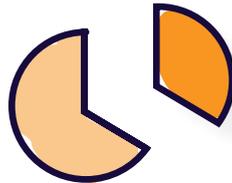
Speak to your legal advisor about including a codicil, which is a simple amendment to your Will.

### I have included OzChild in my Will, do I need to tell you?

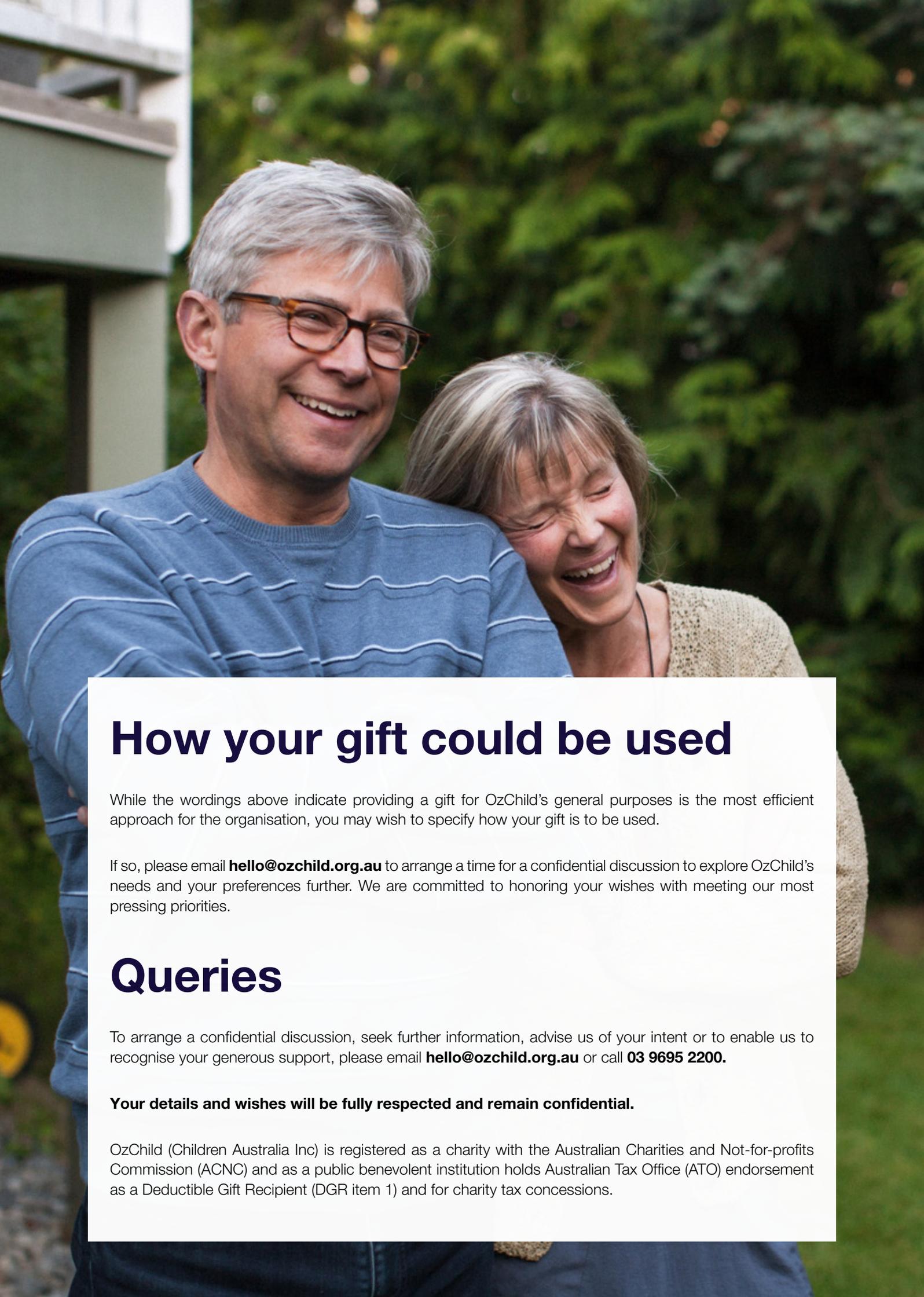
If you have already made a bequest to OzChild, we would love to know, please reach out by emailing [hello@ozchild.org.au](mailto:hello@ozchild.org.au). Knowing about your intention gives us the opportunity to thank you personally.

# Sample wording for your Will

There are several types of gifts you can bequest in your Will. The following sample bequest wordings are provided for the consideration of you and your legal advisor. In all cases, we strongly suggest you seek your own legal advice when preparing a Will.



Specific Bequest	Proportional Bequest	Residual Estate Bequest
<p><b>This includes an exact amount of your Estate, or gifts such as property, shares or artwork.</b></p> <p>“I give Children Australia Incorporated trading as OzChild ABN 90 680 959 928, who at the date of this Will is located at Level 3, 150 Albert Road, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205, [specify sum or details of gift] for its general purposes. I direct that:</p> <p>a) If OzChild shall have changed its name or corporate structure or even the nature of the work it has determined is the priority work for the benefit of children needing care and assistance, the successor charity undertaking such work and its work and general purposes shall be the recipient of the benefit arising hereunder; and</p> <p>b) the receipt of the treasurer or other proper officer of OzChild is a sufficient discharge to my Trustees.”</p>	<p><b>This is a percentage of the value of your Estate.</b></p> <p>“I give Children Australia Incorporated trading as OzChild ABN 90 680 959 928, who at the date of this Will is located at Level 3, 150 Albert Road, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205, [specify percentage amount] percent of the whole of my Estate for its general purposes. I direct that:</p> <p>a) If OzChild shall have changed its name or corporate structure or even the nature of the work it has determined is the priority work for the benefit of children needing care and assistance, the successor charity undertaking such work and its work and general purposes shall be the recipient of the benefit arising hereunder; and</p> <p>b) the receipt of the treasurer or other proper officer of OzChild is a sufficient discharge to my Trustees.”</p>	<p><b>After your family and other beneficiaries have been provided for, the remainder of your Estate will be left to us.</b></p> <p>“I give Children Australia Incorporated trading as OzChild ABN 90 680 959 928, who at the date of this Will is located at Level 3, 150 Albert Road, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205, the rest and residue of my Estate for its general purposes. I direct that:</p> <p>a) If OzChild shall have changed its name or corporate structure or even the nature of the work it has determined is the priority work for the benefit of children needing care and assistance, the successor charity undertaking such work and its work and general purposes shall be the recipient of the benefit arising hereunder; and</p> <p>b) the receipt of the treasurer or other proper officer of OzChild is a sufficient discharge to my Trustees.”</p>

A photograph of an older man and woman smiling and embracing each other outdoors. The man is on the left, wearing glasses and a blue sweater. The woman is on the right, wearing a beige top. They are standing in front of green foliage and a building.

## How your gift could be used

While the wordings above indicate providing a gift for OzChild's general purposes is the most efficient approach for the organisation, you may wish to specify how your gift is to be used.

If so, please email [hello@ozchild.org.au](mailto:hello@ozchild.org.au) to arrange a time for a confidential discussion to explore OzChild's needs and your preferences further. We are committed to honoring your wishes with meeting our most pressing priorities.

## Queries

To arrange a confidential discussion, seek further information, advise us of your intent or to enable us to recognise your generous support, please email [hello@ozchild.org.au](mailto:hello@ozchild.org.au) or call **03 9695 2200**.

**Your details and wishes will be fully respected and remain confidential.**

OzChild (Children Australia Inc) is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and as a public benevolent institution holds Australian Tax Office (ATO) endorsement as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR item 1) and for charity tax concessions.



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