

# 49,000

premature births in the UK each year

# £1,200

cost for one night's stay in the Neonatal Unit

# 500

babies cared for each year in the Neonatal Unit at St George's

# 95%

survival rate for babies born at 28 weeks or after and cared for at St George's NNU

# 36

weeks or less (for a baby to be classed as premature)

# 7%

of births are premature in England and Wales

# 1.0–2.5lbs

Typical birthweight (500–1200g) for an extremely premature baby (born 12–17 weeks early)

Learn more at [www.first-touch.org.uk](http://www.first-touch.org.uk)

Disclaimer: To the best of our knowledge, these figures were correct at time of going to press

## How do I write a will?

- It is possible to write a will yourself; but it is safer to appoint a professional advisor, usually a solicitor. They will be able to help you word things correctly; any incorrect wording could mean that the will might fail.
- Next, work out the value of your estate, in other words how much money you have to leave. This includes the total sum of your property, money and possessions less any outstanding loans, debts and mortgages.
- You must decide who you wish to benefit from your estate and how much they should each be entitled to. You can choose family, friends, charities and good causes. Your advisor will be able to help you decide what kind of gift to leave, be it a specific value of money or a percentage of your whole estate.
- Within the will you will need to appoint executors who make sure that your wishes are carried out. These can be friends, family and/or professional advisors.
- Finally your will must be signed, dated and witnessed correctly and then kept in a safe place. It helps if your solicitor has a copy.

## Updating an existing will

As the value of your assets may change, so can the law and possibly your thoughts about who to help when you die. It is then important to review your will at intervals to make sure that it is still current and still reflects your wishes.

If you already have a will in place but have decided that you would like to leave a gift to First Touch it is easy to add a codicil to an existing will and your solicitor can advise you.

**It is important to be sure that the name, address and registered charity number are quoted correctly in any will or documentation (see bottom of form on reverse for our details).**

# first touch

Supporting sick and premature babies at St George's

## Legacy giving to First Touch



## Why should I choose First Touch?

The Neonatal Unit at St George's Hospital in Tooting cares for over 500 babies each year and is a regional centre of excellence caring for some of the sickest babies in London and the South East.

The NHS Trust budget is limited and can only cover a fraction of the training, equipment and resources that are required to make this unit so special. First Touch raises money to step in to help fund equipment, staff training and patient welfare schemes for the baby unit. Our fundraising plays an integral part in the development of every baby that spends time on the unit.

We know that some parents, grandparents and friends of babies that have been treated on our unit have already recognised First Touch in their wills; acknowledging the huge part that the unit played in the lives of their families and as a thank you for years of enjoyment watching those tiny babies grow up. In turn we are deeply grateful for this recognition.

Regardless of whether you know of a baby who has been treated in the unit, or have simply seen the amazing work that the unit does, you may feel that you would like to make a contribution to our funds, but do not have the resources to do so during your lifetime. A gift to us, however large or small, will mean that we can continue to help tiny babies in the future too.

‘Your support is greatly appreciated and will make a difference’

## Why should I make a will?

A valid will is the only way to ensure that your assets and property are distributed in accordance with your wishes after you die. It will ensure too, that any gift that you may wish to give to First Touch will reach us properly.

Any person that dies without a will is said to be intestate and there are specific rules that govern the way that the assets and effects of an intestate person are dealt with. This may not be in accordance with the way that you would like your family and friends to be treated.

Ensuring that you have specified who you would like to deal with your affairs and how you would like your assets to be divided can make life much easier for those left behind at what is likely to be a distressing time. In addition it is possible to specify whether you would like to be buried or cremated or whether you would like there to be a religious or non religious celebration of your life.

## Why should I make a legacy?

Many people believe that only the very wealthy write wills and leave money to charity. In fact they could not be more wrong; without the gifts left in wills by ordinary people many of the charities that we know and support today would not exist.

It has been reported that three-quarters of the UK population would support a charity if asked; sadly less than 10% actually leave a legacy in their wills.

Making gifts to charity can under certain circumstances reduce the amount of inheritance tax that might be payable on your estate. It is important to seek advice on this from your solicitor or professional advisor.

Every gift really does make a difference to First Touch and we are grateful for every penny.

## Form to be returned to First Touch to help us plan for the future

Title	<input type="text"/>
First name	<input type="text"/>
Surname	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Postcode	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>
Telephone	<input type="text"/>

- I have left a legacy to First Touch
- A specific item, e.g. property, stocks and shares, jewellery etc.
  - A set sum of money
  - Part of my estate
  - All of my estate

Please return to:

**First Touch  
Neonatal Unit  
St George's Hospital  
Blackshaw Road  
London SW17 0QT**

Registered charity number 1072500