

Standard Wills

Writing your Will gives you peace of mind that comes from knowing you have taken care of everyone, so far as you are able.

You cannot assume any spouse, life partner or children will inherit everything when you die.

To die without a Will is to die Intestate. That means the government will write your will for you and it will almost certainly not resemble the choices you would have made as the rules are set and apply to everyone.

Parents of young children would have no control over the selection of guardians for their newly orphaned children. Guardians can be selected in a Will and provision made.

Family arguments can arise over who should get personal belongings and which type of funeral should be arranged. It is unfair to ask a grieving family to make these decisions.

A Will is an expression of an individual's wishes and allows people to state how they wish their estate to be distributed after death. However, a Will in itself does not protect assets but makes allowance for the formation of Trusts which can then be used to protect the family's assets.

A Will is one of the most important documents that a person ever prepares. A correctly drafted Will ensures that your spouse or partner, children, family, friends or your charity are provided for.

We advise that professional executors are named in your will to ensure that your wishes are carried out and that your estate is properly administered.

If any property or money is to be held subject to some conditions, (for instance, a minor person reaching a particular age) the trustees will hold that property or money in safety and must ensure that the trust's requirements are carried out. In most cases the executors are appointed trustees.

For a document to be effective as a Will, some legal formalities must be observed. Also, there are pitfalls that can cause difficulty when a Will comes to be proved by the Court. It is therefore important that the preparation and signing of the will are professionally supervised.

Last updated 31/07/09