Making or amending a Will to benefit Bishop Wordsworth’s School

It is usually relatively inexpensive to make a Will or amend it by adding a Codicil. Most people prefer to do this with the help of a qualified solicitor, who will advise you of the charges involved. You may like to visit www.totallyfreewills.co.uk, a network solicitors’ service, where straightforward Wills are available free of charge.

It is important that Bishop Wordsworth’s School knows how a donor would wish us to use a legacy gift. We therefore ask that the wording in a Will, or in a Codicil which can be added to an existing will, should make this clear in the following way.

If you are arranging a pecuniary bequest (the gift of a specific sum of money) the appropriate wording would be:

‘I give the sum of …… pounds (£....) to Bishop Wordsworth’s Church of England Grammar School for Boys (registered charity number 309475) for the benefit of the Building Fund, or
to be assigned at the discretion of the Governors of Bishop Wordsworth’s School

and I DECLARE that the receipt of the Head Master or other authorised officer for the time being shall be a complete discharge for my Executors and Trustees.’

As the value of a pecuniary bequest may be eroded over time by inflation, you may wish to consider a residuary bequest. This is a gift of all or part of the residue of your estate after other bequests have been made and any debts and expenses have been paid. This sort of bequest would protect the value of your gift as in normal circumstances the value would increase with the value of your estate.

The appropriate wording for a residuary bequest would be:

‘I give ……. per cent (...%) of the residue of my estate to Bishop Wordsworth’s Church of England Grammar School for Boys (registered charity number 309475) for the benefit of the Building Fund or
to be assigned at the discretion of the Governors of Bishop Wordsworth’s School

and I DECLARE that the receipt of the Head Master or other authorised officer for the time being shall be a complete discharge for my Executors and Trustees.’

A Specific Bequest

It may be that you would like to bequeath something other than money: property, a painting, piece of furniture, shareholding, item of jewellery. The wording you should use for this would be similar to that for a pecuniary bequest but with a full description of the item or items.

Inheritance Tax

With contemporary property prices, estates that are subject to Inheritance Tax are evermore commonplace. From April 2012 the threshold above which Inheritance Tax of 40% applies is £325,000. However, a charitable gift of 10 per cent or more of an estate could reduce the amount of Inheritance Tax payable from 40 to 36 per cent.

However, because Bishop Wordsworth’s School is a qualifying charity, all bequests to Bishop Wordsworth’s School are exempt from Inheritance Tax.
It would help us to plan for the future if you felt able to tell us if you have made, or intend to make, a provision for Bishop Wordsworth’s School in your Will. Such information will, of course, be treated in strict confidence.

I have pledged, or intend to pledge, one of the following:

- a pecuniary bequest
- a residuary bequest
- a specific bequest

To benefit

- the Building Fund
- to be assigned at the Governors’ discretion (Bishop Wordsworth’s School Foundation)

Estimated value ........................................... (optional)

- I would like more information. Please telephone me to discuss matters further.

Signed ............................................................. Date ..........................................................

Name ..............................................................................................................................

Address ...........................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................

Postcode ....................................................... Telephone ..............................................

Please return this pledge to the address below or contact the Bursar if you wish to enquire about any aspect of arranging a legacy.

Mr J S Moore
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Bishop Wordsworth’s School
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Salisbury
Wiltshire
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