



Make a Will

Make a difference

Support NCW to continue to build brighter futures for young people who are blind or visually impaired



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Introduction

New College Worcester (NCW) is a national residential school and college for young people aged 11 to 19 who are blind or visually impaired.

Every student at NCW has a tailored programme, carefully planned and delivered to meet their individual needs in three key areas; academic achievement, independent living skills and involvement in extracurricular activities at the College and in the community.

The opportunities provided to students in these three areas of provision play a crucial role in the development of confidence and self-esteem and preparation for life beyond our College.

NCW provides

- Academic focus for students who are blind or visually impaired
- Expert subject teachers qualified to teach the visually impaired
- A 'waking day' curriculum - a cross campus approach ensures learning continues at the end of the school day
- An individualised approach to every student
- An ethos which puts students first
- A robust safeguarding environment
- Increased student employability through academic achievement and social skills
- High aspirations for every person
- Outreach Service offering training and advice to mainstream schools.

Our outcomes

At NCW we are working towards eight key learner outcomes which will underpin an individual's successful transition into further education, work and becoming an independent and fulfilled member of their community.

These eight learner outcomes are:

- Independence and negotiation skills
- Life after college
- Meeting others
- Participation
- Getting around
- Learning to access
- Use of equipment
- Self care



A history of four schools

Worcester College for the blind

Secondary education for young people with a visual impairment began when Worcester College was established in 1866 for the 'blind sons of gentlemen'.

It started at the Commandery, a building which had been used as the Royalist headquarters during the Battle of Worcester – now a museum.

The need for more space led the College to move in 1887 to Slaughter's Court, a rented house in the Worcestershire village of Powick. In 1902 Worcester College gained a permanent home on the Whittington Road site, home to the college today. The land and money were donated by Malvern resident, Miss Eliza Warrington, who sadly passed away in 1901 before she was able to see the project completed.

The College expanded from 1913 under Headmaster Mr Brown. He was keen for the boys to compete in sports against their sighted peers, so an open-air swimming pool was built and rowing crews competed in regattas (including the Henley Regatta of 1927). An important change came in 1936 when the, then, National Institute for the Blind undertook all financial responsibility for the College which led to the further expansion of the school building. The former Prime Minister, Earl Stanley Baldwin of Bewdley, opened the Baldwin Wing in 1939.

After the passing of the 1944 Act Worcester College for the Blind was designated a grammar school for blind boys and with a donation from the Isaac Wolfson Foundation of £50,000 a Chapel, Braille Library, additional teaching space and a new laboratory were added.

“ We who have received so much surely owe it to future generations of young blind girls and boys to make a contribution to ensure its survival, if we're fortunate enough to have money to leave in our wills, a bequest is really the best we can do. ”

Former NCW student





Chorleywood College for girls with little or no sight

Although the boys of Worcester College had the opportunity to progress on to higher education from the mid-nineteenth century, there was no such establishment for girls who were visually impaired until Chorleywood College for girls with little or no sight was set up by the National Institute for the Blind in 1921. The school was located in the Cedars, a large Renaissance-style mansion in Hertfordshire. After the Education Act of 1944, the school was designated as a grammar school for girls.

RNIB New College Worcester

By the 1980s changes in mainstream education had meant that fewer students were being sent to boarding schools. In 1987, the decision was made to close Worcester College and Chorleywood College and 'merge' them to form the co-educational, comprehensive, RNIB New College Worcester. The old large dormitories were replaced with new boarding houses and a new Science wing was added.

New College Worcester (NCW)

In 2007, negotiations between the governors of the college and the RNIB resulted in a consensus that enabled the college to become an independent non-maintained special school. The school was renamed New College Worcester and in 2016 the College celebrated its 150th year.

“ Only since I retired have I found time to think about my experiences at Worcester and to consider what I can do to help to train and support future generations of young blind people. When I was there, I profited from so many astonishing advantages, and took them all for granted, as young people often do. ”

Former NCW student

Gifts in Wills

Frequently asked questions



Why make a Will?

An up-to-date Will is essential as it means you can avoid any confusion about your wishes. By writing a Will, you decide who you want to benefit. You can ensure your loved ones and the causes you care about are provided for in exactly the way you wish. If you die without making a Will, you are said to have died “interstate”. If this happens, UK law will specify who inherits your estate (property, personal possessions and money). This may mean your estate doesn’t go where you want it to. It is important to make a Will so your intentions are clear.

How often should I update my Will?

You should check your Will at least every three years - or sooner if your personal circumstances change. You may also need to review it if there are changes to the taxation system or to your finances. It is also important to keep an eye on the value of your estate to ensure you are aware of any Inheritance Tax liability.

I don’t have a large estate. How can I make a difference to NCW?

Each and every gift will help us to continue to support young people who are blind or visually impaired who attends NCW. We are so grateful for whatever gift you can give in your Will.

Can I write or amend my own Will?

We recommend using a Will-writing service provided by a legal professional to write or update your Will, so there is less chance of it being contested.

How would my gift make a difference?

Your gift would go directly towards supporting our students. This could help go towards improving our facilities, specialist equipment, increased mobility or independent living training, trips and activities - all of which would improve the opportunities for future independent and employment.

Do I have to pay Inheritance Tax?

Depending on the value of your estate, you may be liable for Inheritance Tax. Gifts to charities are exempt from Inheritance Tax, so including a gift to NCW could provide tax benefits. Visit www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax for more information

Should I make a donation now rather than wait until then?

It’s true to say we need donations today, but gifts in Wills can help us make sure the vital work we do today can also continue in the future. Clearly, no one knows exactly what the future holds, but remembering NCW in your Will is a great way of helping us to respond to the future needs of our community at no cost to you during your lifetime.

Thinking about your Will

When thinking about your Will and your wishes, there are many different things to reflect upon and they are decisions that require careful consideration.

If you need more information about NCW, please get in touch with the fundraising team and we would be delighted to arrange a convenient time for you to come and visit us, meet the students and find out more about the work we do.

We can also tell you about Will-writing promotions such as our own Wills campaign. Once you are ready to write or update your Will, NCW recommends you consult with a solicitor, ideally a wills and probate specialist. Some useful contact details are provided at the back of this booklet.

In some cases, a Will writing service may offer to provide a Will more cheaply than a solicitor. However, the quality of the advice you receive may vary from one Will write to the next. For this reason, NCW recommends you speak with a solicitor but if you choose to use a Will writer, we recommend you use a Will writer who is a member of the Institute of Professional Willwriters (IPW).

Your choice of gift

A gift that is a small percentage of whatever is left, after you have looked after your loved ones, may be the best way to support us, but there are several other ways you can choose to remember NCW in your Will including a gift, which is a fixed monetary amount or a specific item.

Whatever your preferences and personal circumstances, your solicitor will be able to identify the most appropriate type of gift for you.

If you do choose to leave any form of gift in your Will to NCW, information you will need is:

- **New College Worcester**
- **Whittington Road, Worcester WR5 2JX**
- **Registered Charity Number 1118377**

This vital information about the college would then be followed by the details of your personal gift. Our promise to you if you choose to remember NCW in your Will, we promise to respect your privacy and deal with your gift sensitively and efficiently.

If you do decide to tell us about your gift, we promise to provide any information you may need and give you the choice of how you would like us to communicate with you in the future.

We understand that circumstances change and we respect your right to remove NCW from your Will, regardless of whether or not you have previously told us about your gift.

We hope this guide has been useful. We are not qualified to provide legal or financial advice, but we can answer any general questions you may have about Gifts in Wills. We can also tell you more about the kind of work your legacy gift could help fund.

To find out more about NCW and how you can support please contact:



01905 763933



fundraising@ncw.co.uk



www.ncw.co.uk

Other useful contacts:

The Law Society of England and Wales

Tel: 020 7242 1222

www.thelawsociety.org.uk

The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners

Tel: 020 7340 0500

www.step.org

Institute of Professional Willwriters

Tel: 08456 442042

www.ipw.org.uk



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REGULATOR

ncw

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