



“Our child has developed in so many ways that neither us as parents nor her consultant at Great Ormond Street could have ever hoped for, and this has to be mainly down to PACE.”

Making the
gift of a lifetime

A will to unlock potential

Two children sit next to each other at a specially designed child-sized desk. They are supporting themselves and sitting comfortably. You can tell from the expressions on their faces that the boy and girl are completely focused on the teacher opposite them.

They're playing 'Open the Bag'. Together they loudly call out the name of the game and then take it in turns to put their hand into the bag and draw out one of the objects inside it. "Duck!" says the boy with delight and he shows what he has found. He holds the duck carefully and explores it with his mouth. When it's time to put the duck back into the bag, he does so. The girl cries out "Ellie's turn", and the game continues.

To you and me, it couldn't be simpler. But for Ellie and Mark*, aged 6 and 7 respectively, the game shows the momentous steps they have taken at PACE. They can sit up unaided and take part in an event with cause and effect, outcomes and expectations. They can name objects. They can say their own names and can happily interact with another child.

For children with cerebral palsy, and other motor disorders, these are wonderful achievements. They are part of a process that will gradually, in tiny incremental steps, help to transform their lives. Mobility leads to independence. Choice leads to self-expression. Achievement leads to self-confidence. And they all create the foundations for skills which enable children with cerebral palsy to take part in society and not lead isolated lives.



*children's names have been changed for reasons of privacy



As a charity, PACE depends on the support of individuals to help as many children as possible who have motor disabilities such as cerebral palsy. This is why the decision to leave a gift in your will to PACE is, in every sense, the gift of a lifetime.

A will to succeed

“Our son loves going to school. He feels valued as a child and individual and is more willing to try here than at previous learning environments where there seemed to be no expectation and he wasn’t encouraged to try or develop.”

Cerebral palsy is a life-long condition that cannot be cured. But with intensive and early intervention, children can find ways to successfully cope with their disability.

Here at PACE, we have developed a trans-disciplinary approach to achieve this. It’s an ongoing learning programme which recognises the person as a whole and addresses both their cognitive and physical development. By retraining undamaged parts of the brain to take over some of the functions controlled by the damaged part, we at PACE aim to realise a child’s full potential.

Working together with children and parents in an intensely supportive environment, we nurture a delight and confidence in their ability to solve problems.

By modulating the challenges, tasks, games and social interaction each child experiences at PACE, they gradually develop a will to succeed. This in turn helps them develop the self-care, motor, social and communication skills they need.

PACE works with children up to the age of eighteen. Starting as early as possible in a child’s life is absolutely key to how much can be achieved. PACE’s Early Years Programme focuses on arousing interest, maintaining attention, encouraging understanding and processing skills. This foundation makes all the difference in the world to the future development of a child with cerebral palsy.

What really matters at PACE is doing everything possible to encourage an independent spirit in every child that can be expressed in every aspect of their life.



Dependent entirely on charitable support, PACE’s Early Years Programme could particularly benefit from a gift in your will.

A will to transform lives

“Finding PACE when our daughter was a toddler gave us hope, purpose and skills to help her progress. PACE was important for Zoe as it meant she had contact with a variety of other children of different ages with cerebral palsy from when she was small. Zoe talks confidently about cerebral palsy, her body and her own particular strengths and limitations.”

Demand for the educational approach PACE offers is growing, especially in our work with babies and toddlers. Thanks to advances in paediatric care in Special Care Baby Units, more babies are surviving premature births and traumatic deliveries. At the same time, the incidence of cerebral palsy has also risen. In the years ahead, the need for PACE's services is likely to be greater than ever.

PACE is both a charity and an independent special school. As such, we are able to charge for nursery and school age placements from local authorities. These funds contribute directly to the charity's income.

However, as a result of our commitment to delivering the high quality of service that has shown such positive results, there is a gap of nearly 40% between our actual

costs and what we receive from local authorities. And our Early Years service receives no statutory support and is funded solely by charitable donations.

That's why deciding to leave a gift in your will really matters. By helping us to be here in the years ahead, your legacy could help very young children start on the educational programme at PACE they need to develop essential life skills. This 'education for life' can transform a child's future.

The close bond we develop with parents has cemented our conviction that, given the right support from an early age, a child with cerebral palsy can blossom like any other child. As a result, hundreds of children at PACE have developed into adults able to achieve far more than anyone ever expected.



A gift in your will to PACE

If you would like to discuss ways in which a gift in your will to PACE can benefit children with cerebral palsy, we would love to meet you.

Please contact us at

PACE, 156 Wendover Road, Weston Turville,
Aylesbury, Bucks, HP22 5TE
telephone: 01296 614287; or
email: giftofalifetime@thepacecentre.org

We would be happy to arrange a visit to the PACE centre in Aylesbury so you can see our life-changing work for yourself.

Thank you.

Remembering PACE in your will enables us to transform the lives of future generations of children with cerebral palsy.

Don't forget that if the total value of your estate is more than £325,000, you could reduce your Inheritance Tax by making a gift in your will. If you wish, you can leave a legacy for a specific purpose, for example to pay for trained staff, or to purchase special equipment. However, making an unrestricted gift allows PACE to use your legacy where it will have the greatest impact. This flexibility is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

“PACE has provided stability to our family. Knowing that our daughter is at a school that is not only geared to her, but that unlocks her potential in such a caring environment, allows us to move on with our lives. It takes away a lot of the worry and anxiety especially when trying to map out the future. Also the amount of feedback we get is amazing, and the constant desire to help our child is humbling”.

For children with cerebral palsy, and their parents, a gift in your will makes this and so much more possible at PACE.

Thank you.



PACE

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