BRISBANE GIRLS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

WILLS & BEQUESTS

A lasting gift for girls' education

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Give the gift of a Girls Grammar education

Since 1875, Brisbane Girls Grammar School has provided the educational foundation for young women to contribute confidently to their world—to thrive in all of their endeavours, embracing challenge and opportunity.

As one of Australia's leading girls' schools, we remain committed to providing an exemplary broad, liberal education in an environment that encourages principled behaviour and judicious, ethical and purposeful engagement.

The School is built upon a heritage of giving. The Brisbane community united to raise the required funds for the Queensland Government to establish the School, and over more than 145 years the generosity of our families and alumnae has continued to support the School.

Remembering Girls Grammar in your will is an enduring and transformative way to enrich the lives of future generations of Grammar girls through the gift of education.

We encourage you to consider leaving a gift in your will to Brisbane Girls Grammar School and invite you to discuss your wishes with the School's Development Office.

Shape the future

For many people, a bequest is the most powerful and meaningful philanthropic contribution they will ever make.

A gift in your will to Brisbane Girls Grammar School will provide a lasting benefit to future generations of students.

Bequests to Girls Grammar typically support one of the following areas:

GENERAL UNRESTRICTED PURPOSES
enabling the School to direct support to the areas of greatest need at the time

BURSARIES
offering the life-changing opportunity of a Girls Grammar education to girls who may not otherwise be able to attend the School

BUILDINGS
ensuring Girls Grammar can continue to provide excellent facilities for outstanding teaching and learning.

Bequests can be designated, unrestricted, endowed in perpetuity (permitting the School to use an agreed percentage per annum), or applied entirely at the time of the gift.

If you are considering leaving the School a more specific bequest, we encourage you to speak confidentially with the School's Development Office, to ensure that your wishes can be fulfilled and your gift will have the impact that you intend.

Maria Sulima's gift to create opportunities

Born in 1911 in Galicia, part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Dr Maria Sulima arrived in Brisbane in 1949. Having attained a Doctorate in Law and Economics from Florence University, Maria established a thriving business in real estate and operated a translation service and migration agency. Education and academic achievement were important in her life and underpinned her belief that women should have the opportunity to benefit from an excellent education.

Dr Sulima chose Girls Grammar to fulfil her dream of providing an exceptional education for young women. She bequeathed funds to the School to provide the Maria Sulima Bursary to girls who otherwise would not be able to attend.

First awarded in 1995, the Maria Sulima Bursary has to date provided 20 girls with access to the life-changing opportunities a Brisbane Girls Grammar School education offers.

Planning your bequest

Brisbane Girls Grammar School welcomes bequests of all sizes. Every bequest is important, and will contribute directly to the School's sustainability and continued provision of truly exceptional education into the future.

It is simple to add a provision for a charitable bequest to your will. In general, a bequest can be defined as:

- a proportion of the estate
- a proportion of the residue of the estate
- particular assets
- an amount of money you specify.

A will allows you to direct how your estate will be distributed to those people and organisations that are most important to you. When planning your bequest, we recommend you discuss your intentions with your family and seek independent legal and financial advice regarding when preparing or updating your will.

Recognising your bequest through the Sophia Beanland Circle

The Sophia Beanland Circle acknowledges and thanks those who have provided for Brisbane Girls Grammar School through a bequest.

Miss Sophia Beanland was appointed Lady Principal of Brisbane Girls Grammar School in 1882. She led the School through several significant changes, including the move to its current home on Gregory Terrace. When Miss Beanland died in 1925, she bequeathed her estate to the School to ensure continued excellence in teaching and learning.

Members of the Sophia Beanland Circle maintain a close and enduring connection to Girls Grammar through special events and other activities.

Your generous gift will also be recognised in selected School publications (unless you wish to remain anonymous).

While we encourage everyone who has included Brisbane Girls Grammar School in their will to notify us, we understand that many do not seek recognition; we also welcome and respect bequests made anonymously.

Brisbane Girls Grammar School students at the School's second campus on Wickham Terrace, published in the Brisbane Courier circa 1883.

Frequently asked questions

My bequest is not likely to be large; is it worthwhile to give?
Yes, it is definitely worthwhile. All gifts make a difference. For example, over time, and with sound management to retain and grow the capital, funds invested for bursaries distribute many times their initial capital to assist students. Even modest gifts can have a substantial impact.

I would like to leave a bequest to help a specific group of students. Is this possible?
Some bequests are targeted to assist a specific group of students—for example, students in financial need. To ensure your gift remains feasible in the long term, we strongly recommend you speak to the Development Office about your wishes before you prepare or update your will.

Is there a minimum bequest for establishing a named perpetual bursary?
Yes, there is a minimum to establish a named bursary to ensure it is viable in perpetuity. We encourage you to speak to the Development Office for current information. It is also possible to contribute an amount of any size to the existing Brisbane Girls Grammar School Bursary Fund.

How does the School manage funds received from bequests?
The School adheres to best-practice financial management and governance practices. The Board of Trustees is responsible for oversight of the School's financial management and responsible investment of funds. Where funds are established in perpetuity, an annual assessment of investment returns and drawdown of funds is considered to ensure maintenance of these funds into the future. The School is committed to careful oversight to ensure your gift is administered in accordance with your wishes.

An enduring connection

One of the greatest gifts that you can give is the gift of an excellent education.

If you are considering a gift to Brisbane Girls Grammar School in your will, we invite you to contact the School's Development Office, to discuss your intentions in confidence so that the School can understand your intent and fulfil your wishes in the future.

When your bequest is finalised, we encourage you to advise the School so we can acknowledge your gift and keep in touch. Informing the School of your current will is non-binding and you are free to change your intentions at any stage in the future.

Thank you for considering a gift to Brisbane Girls Grammar School in your will.

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