

Signing Your Will during the Covid-19 Crisis

This guide should be read in conjunction with our “How to Sign Your Will” sheet and is designed to offer additional guidance whilst adhering to the current social distancing restrictions.

This is a guide only and you may require your witnesses to follow such additional precautions as you see fit, in order to protect you and anyone else in your household.

Points to consider:

1. Video execution of the Will

Either make and send us a video recording of the signing of the Will so that we can check everything has been correctly completed **or** arrange for us to supervise execution via video link

2. Sign in an open space

Stand at least two metres away from your witnesses and ensure they stand at least two metres away from each other too. Lay your Will on a table or other flat surface which you and your witnesses can approach in turn.

There is no need for signing to take place indoors if outside space is available - this may make maintaining a distance of two metres between all parties easier.

Everyone should be able to clearly see the will as it is signed by the others but they do not need to be close enough to read the signatures or the Will itself. Your witnesses may even be on the other side of a window from you, as long as they can still clearly see both the will itself and you signing it. You can do likewise when the witnesses sign.

3. Use your own pen

Ask both of your witnesses to bring their own pens to prevent spread of the virus from you and your witnesses touching the same pen.

4. The virus can survive on paper

Once signed, place the Will in a secure bag or envelope, without touching the bag or envelope, and wash your hands to avoid transferring any theoretical virus to yourself or to any other surface in your house.

In no circumstances should anything else be stapled or attached to the Will. Return the Will to us so that we can check, copy and scan the Will and apply any necessary binding to protect the Will.