



sponsoring a child

why sponsor a child?

We believe that our sponsorship scheme enables God's people to participate in the lives of children taken into the care of IMC from serious situations of abuse and neglect.

Children in the sponsorship scheme are assured the opportunity to grow up in a healthy environment. The support and care they receive from IMC staff during their formative years opens many new possibilities for their lives, and options for a future in which they can continue to thrive and flourish.

You, as a sponsor, have the encouragement of seeing a child's life transformed over the long term with the loving attention of dedicated workers. Through your regular gifts, we can help to change their situation from a picture of despair to one of hope.

how does the scheme work?

We have many children in the sponsorship scheme. From time to time, new children join the scheme, or a sponsored child may leave the scheme. This may depend on changing family circumstances or a positive re-assessment by the social worker.

Most children we will follow through their formative years until they graduate from secondary school. After this we continue with sponsorship for a further year, as they make the transition into independent life as a young adult, with help finding accommodation and looking for work.

If for any reason your sponsored child leaves the scheme, you will be informed and given the option to sponsor another child, or if you prefer, to give to the wider work, or to stop your regular payments.

Money received through sponsorship is not normally sufficient for all of the costs incurred, especially for children in residential placements. Funds from other sources make up the difference. However, sponsors do make a significant contribution towards meeting the needs.

The child and their family will not receive cash directly. Instead, IMC uses the income to pay for the child's clothing, food, educational materials, medical costs and other related expenses.

what can I expect?

- We hope all sponsors will be willing to invest in the child's life for the long term.
- You may sponsor a child until the end of one full year after they complete secondary education. If for any reason a child leaves the scheme earlier, we will inform you so you may choose how to redirect your giving.

- If you wish to maintain contact with a young adult after they leave the scheme, we can put you in touch. You are then free to make your own correspondence arrangements.
- We aim to provide sponsors with an annual update on their sponsored child, with photos in most instances.
- We aim to deliver your occasional letters and cards in a timely manner, with translation where needed. You may send to our UK office for forwarding.

can I send a gift?

how to send a letter or a card:

Please put your letter or card into an open envelope with your full name (as sender) and the child's full name (as recipient) on the outside. Put this into a bigger envelope and send it to our UK office address. We will then forward it on our next monthly mailing to the office in Colombia.

how to send a birthday or christmas gift:

If you would like to send extra for a child's birthday or for christmas, then this money will be used to purchase new shoes or clothes for the child, and perhaps a toy or another gift. Simply enclose a cheque with the card you send, and the money will be sent out with the next monthly finance transfer. We will notify the office in Colombia, and the staff there will purchase a gift for the child.

Please do not send goods, as we cannot ship them. It is easier to ensure that each child receives an appropriate gift if these are purchased by staff on location.

Note: you will need to allow at least 31 days for your card to be translated and sent, and your cheque to be processed and to arrive on time for birthday celebrations!

address to use for gifts, cards and letters:

address in UK

In Ministry to Children
Life Church
62 Station Road
Petersfield
GU32 3ES

any other questions?

We hope this sheet provides the essential information. However, if you have other questions please contact us at our office address, and we will endeavour to answer you.

Thank you once again for your interest and support.