

Barnardo's & Zakat – FAQ's

Will my donation be held in an interest free bank account?

Yes. Barnardo's have a dedicated interest free bank account to hold all Zakat funds before they are sent to the specific service. Only Zakat funds will be held in this account.

When will my donation be spent?

Zakat donations will aim to be spent within an annual lunar year. Where this is not possible due to the funding required for more than one year for the specific project, donors will be informed in the individual project details and this will be approved by the Islamic Scholar.

Where will you be spending Zakat?

Zakat collected in Ramadan 2020 will be restricted to our Northern Ireland Refugee Support Service. Barnardo's have worked with over 1,600 Syrian refugees who have arrived in to the UK. Support ranges from emotional, financial, housing, guardianship for unaccompanied minors and more. With your help, we will be looking to enhance the service and deepen our support to give the families the best care and opportunities as they settle in to life in the UK by launching a new focus within the service to fund a new role which supports the refugees to find meaningful employment.

Will administrative costs be taken out of my Zakat payment?

Administrative costs are not claimed on Zakat donations. 100% of Zakat payments are spent on the specified project.

Can you claim Gift Aid on my Zakat payment?

Yes, Barnardo's can claim Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer. This will be treated as unrestricted donations and will be allocated to Barnardo's voluntary funds.

Is my Zakat donation restricted to Muslim beneficiaries?

Barnardo's services are open to children and young people of all backgrounds, faiths, genders and more. For our Zakat specific projects, we have identified services with a higher proportion of Muslim service users. Zakat funds will be spent on the proportion of Muslim service users within this project. Voluntary funds will be spent on the remainder.

Have you worked with an Islamic Scholar to ensure you are fulfilling Zakat requirements?

Yes. Barnardo's have worked very closely with Mufti Billal Omarjee, a Shariah Scholar who specialises in Zakat. Mufti Billal has worked closely with Barnardo's from the outset; identifying a Zakat compliant project within Barnardo's, advising on our implementation and accounting procedures and ensuring that all policies, procedures and projects are in line with Zakat requirements. Our internal BAME Fundraising Team also have extensive Zakat experience.

Mufti Billal Omarjee was born on the French Island of Reunion where he memorised the Quran before moving to the UK at the age of 17. He completed his 6 years Islamic theology studies at the Darul Uloom Bury in 2004 under the guidance of many prestigious scholars of fiqh and hadith. He holds a BA in Banking and law in London in 2011 and subsequently also qualified as a Mufti. Mufti Billal also holds a post graduate diploma and is a Certified Waqf Professional from the Institute of Islamic Banking and Finance, London along with Certified Sukuk Professional from Al Huda CIBE.

He has served as research assistant for Mufti Zubair Butt; chair of the Al Qalam Sharia Panel, served as Imam of Chingford Masjid, and served as Islamic law expert to the National Zakat Foundation.