

welcome session - key stage 1

Welcome and introductions (3 minutes)

Welcome to The Salvation Army and to Ultimate Church Visit. *Briefly introduce yourself and your team and give any necessary information about the building, safety etc.*

First impressions (7 minutes)

If the visit is taking place in your Salvation Army hall, ask the children about their first impressions using some or all of the questions below. Include as many children as possible and encourage them to put their hands up to answer.

- How many of you have been to a church or place of worship before?
- What were the other churches/places of worship like?
- Does The Salvation Army look the same or different to those places? How?
- How many of you had heard of The Salvation Army before your visit today?
- Do you know anything about The Salvation Army already?
- What would you like to find out about The Salvation Army today?

The Salvation Army is a Christian church and charity, which is an organisation which helps people.

Aims (choose/adapt/add as necessary)

Today you're going to be finding out...

- what worship is like in The Salvation Army
- about how The Salvation Army helps others
- how The Salvation Army started
- _____
- _____

How the visit will work (2 minutes)

This is how the visit will work. In your groups you're going to visit ____ zones which are set up around the church/hall. Every zone has its own leader. In each zone you will learn something different about The Salvation Army. *Point out the different zones, especially if any are in different rooms, and explain which direction the pupils will travel.* At the end of the morning/afternoon/day, we'll come back here for a 'think tank' session and you will be asked to say at least one new thing you have learnt, what you enjoyed and anything the visit made you think about.

Getting ready (3 minutes)

Pupils can now get into their groups, and pupil books can be given out by zone leaders/helpers before they set off to their first zone. Make sure pupils write their name on their pupil book!



think tank

Once all the pupils have visited the zones, they come back together for a final plenary session – the think tank.

Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed travelling around the zones. Have you had a good morning/afternoon/day? I'm going to give you a few minutes to fill in the Think Tank page in the back of your pupil booklet and write down the new things you have learnt about The Salvation Army, what the visit has made you think about and what you have enjoyed.

Support any pupils who need help writing their thoughts down, or remembering what they have learnt – they may be a little overwhelmed with information! After a few minutes, invite pupils to share their answers with the class – first what they learnt, then what the visit made them think about, or what they enjoyed. Encourage pupils to try to give different answers to the others, if possible. You could refer back to any initial ideas they had about The Salvation Army in the welcome session and see whether any of these have changed.

Thank pupils and teachers for engaging in the activities and for being so enthusiastic to learn about The Salvation Army and for working very sensibly. Hand out copies of 'Kids Alive!', information leaflets etc and make sure pupils take everything with them!

