

## School Assemblies

**Whilst many Companies go into local Primary Schools and promote BB at an assembly, there are less that would do the same with a secondary or higher school. Many of the principles are the same, but the content and presentation will obviously need to reflect the age group.**

Things to consider:

- 1) Have you any existing links with the school? Is a parent a school governor or teaching assistant or teacher? What links has your church with the school?
- 2) It's important to establish a relationship with the Head. Like you, they're really busy people, but are usually keen to promote positive out of school experiences for the young people. If you have no existing links, write to the Head explaining what BB does and the benefit to the young people. Ask for a few minutes of his/her time and try to arrange a meeting. If you know someone who works there ask them to make the introductions.
- 3) Think carefully and pray about who is best to do the meeting and assembly. This may be determined by who is available to go into school during the day, but this may not be the best person. Think about people in church, but it needs to be someone who will be there on the night you are inviting young people.
- 4) At a meeting reiterate how BB is of benefit, building self-confidence and teaching new skills and complements the values and ethos of the school. Are there young people in school who are already members of BB? Tell the Head you are keen to promote BB and are asking for support. Would it be possible to run an assembly or talk for a few minutes at the end of the assembly? If you are going to ask existing young people to be involved, it's important to discuss this with them and get their permission.
- 5) Assemblies may be for the whole school or may be separate year groups. Think carefully about being inclusive. If you are a Boys' only Company is there a sister organisation at church who would value running the assembly with you? The Head may not want you to address only half the school or half a year group. If you can speak to just one year group is it better to engage with the youngest school members or do you want to recruit to a senior age group?
- 6) Following the meeting remember to write to the Head to thank them for the opportunity and to confirm the details.
- 7) For the assembly plan your presentation carefully. See the example below:
- 8) Arrange with the Head how your leaflets will be distributed. It's best if class teachers can give them out at the end of the day. Ask if you can leave some posters to be put up in school.
- 9) Thank the Head before you leave and also write and thank them for allowing you in. The impression you give will determine whether this can be an annual event.

- Introduce yourself
- Explain that you are here to tell them something about Boys' Brigade (depending on the local situation, BB might be well known to the young people or it might be something that few have heard of)
- Show movie (*available to download from BB website*)
- Highlight the opportunities and activities available at your Company
- Give opportunity for questions
- Explain that if they are interested there is a leaflet giving further information to take home
- Thank them for their attention.