

School Assemblies

Many Companies have the privilege of being able to go into the local Primary School and promote BB at an assembly. When successful they can result in a high number of new members.

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 children. If you have no existing links, write to the Head explaining what BB does and the benefit to the children. 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 children.
- 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 children 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 to the children for a few minutes at the end of the assembly?
- 5) Assemblies may be for the whole school or may be separate for younger and older children. 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.
- 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 for children to take home. Ask if you can leave some posters to be put up in school and ask that the children are reminded on the day of the recruiting night.
- 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
- Ask who belongs to an organisation outside of school? Ask some children what it is.
- I want to tell you about Boys' Brigade and the fun you will have there. If you already belong to an organisation that's great, but you might be able to come to Boys' Brigade as well.
- PowerPoint presentation – you could provide your own or use the one on the BB website. Talk about what you do and flick through then pictures in the background.
- Show the sweatshirts and the badges.
- Remind that at BB you will have opportunities to do things that you might not do anywhere else.
- Tell where and when you meet, but all children will have a leaflet to take home.
- Ask for any questions.

THOUGHT

Would it be possible to run BB taster session one lunchtime or after school? This would get the children excited and wanting to come on your meeting night. Check out this possibility with the Head.