





Apart from the Victorian uniforms (and stand-up collar uniforms etc) all of these outfits are worn by members of The Salvation Army today, even though they're all different. See how quickly you can answer these questions:

- Which uniform(s) looks like it might be worn in different countries? How can you tell? Why do you think there are different Salvation Army uniforms for different countries? *(People wear different uniforms in countries like India and Africa because of the weather, and also to fit in with the type of clothes other people wear, but they still have the same symbols and often the same design.)*
- Which uniform do you think would be the best one for helping in an emergency? Why? *(High visibility jacket - it's very visible, has a large Red Shield and could be put on over any outfit if you were in a hurry.)*
- Which would be best for leading a church service, or a wedding or funeral? Why? *(Tunic - it's formal, people will know you're the minister and it shows God respect.)*
- Which uniform would be best for talking to people living on the streets, late at night? *(Hoody/hat - it's warm, has a Red Shield and members won't look out of place talking to people living on the street.)*
- Which one would you wear if you were helping to serve breakfast in a drop-in centre for homeless people? Why? *(Polo shirt - it's very practical, has a Red Shield and can be washed easily).*
- Which uniform do you think a child might wear? *(Polo-shirt/jumper - it's designed especially for children.)*

*Pupils can take the uniforms off now.*

### **Art & design activity (10+ minutes)**

*Choose from the following activities:*

- *Design a new Salvation Army uniform for the future (in pupil book/activity sheet)*
- *Make a Victorian bonnet or cap (see instruction sheets)*

## **extra activities**

### **Questions and extra information (2+ minutes)**

*Ask pupils whether they have any questions about the uniform. The information below may help to answer some of them, or simply give extra information if there's time.*

- **What do the different epaulettes or trimmings mean?**

Formal uniforms are all the same apart from the trimmings or epaulettes, showing our belief that everyone is equal – no one is more important than anyone else. However, there are different coloured epaulettes for officers (full-

time ministers) and for soldiers (members - who do not work for The Salvation Army full-time). The trimmings can also show how long someone has been an officer, or what position they hold. For example, the General, who is the leader of the whole Salvation Army, has different coloured epaulettes so people will know who he or she is.

- **What do the 'S's on the collar stand for?**

The 'S's may stand for 'Salvation'. Some people say they stand for 'saved to serve' or 'saved to save'. Members of The Salvation Army believe they have been saved by God, and so God has called them to save and serve others. What could it mean to be saved by God, or to save others?

- **Does everyone have to wear a uniform?**

Salvation Army ministers (officers) do, but only when they're on official business, not when they're at home or on holiday – a bit like a priests in other churches. Members (or soldiers) usually wear a uniform for church and for some other events, but they don't have to wear it, and many choose not to. Why do you think some members might choose not to wear a uniform? (They may want to make other people who are not members feel more welcome.) If you don't have to wear a uniform to be a member of The Salvation Army, what other ways could you show that you are a member? *(By your actions and the way you live! Also by telling people.)*

