

# Visit Example



## MUSIC - Father Willis Pipe Organ

**Visit Objective:** To gain an understanding of the workings of a church organ, the different sounds it can produce and its history.

Starter	Main Teaching	Resources
<p>This session starts downstairs outside the Blower Room.</p> <p>Visitors try holding their breath for as long as possible. This is followed by discussing the use of the diaphragm and showing how the stomach expands rather than shoulders coming up.</p> <p>Visitors are asked to take a deep breath and blow out for as long as possible. This demonstrates that everyone runs out of breath! It is then explained that the blower keeps going to allow an even flow of air to the pipes.</p>	<p><b><u>Activity 1 - Manuals and Pedal Board</u></b> Go upstairs to see the ornamental pipes in the casework (one side works, whereas the other is just for decoration to balance the look). Behind all these pipes are the other ranks; which are visible from opening the side panels of the casework. At this point an explanation of the manuals and pedalboard is given with the organist, who plays samples to demonstrate.</p> <p><b><u>Activity 2 - A close up!</u></b> To get a greater view of the parts, but without touching, visitors have the opportunity to stand very carefully inside the organ on a walkway (please note restricted space). Here the visitor can discover and gain real life experience that the longer the pipe, the deeper the note produced.</p> <p><b><u>Activity 3 - From the beginning</u></b> Through discussion, visitors are given a history of the organ and why it was built. The organist shows how the pipes vary with a demonstration of sounds. An explanation of the stops and pistons are given with examples.</p> <p><b><u>Activity 4 - Music time</u></b> The session finishes with the organist playing a longer extract of music so that everyone can see how the parts work together and what the organist has to do.</p> <p>Visitors are then allowed to experience first hand with a chance to press some keys, or play a piece of music already learnt on the piano.</p>	<p>This session is led by members of the Music for All @ SMSG Visits Team.</p>