

Food Safety Challenge - Teachers' Information Sheet

Dear Teachers,

We are researchers from the University of Manchester investigating children's understanding of the bacteria that cause food poisoning. This is an invitation to facilitate your pupils participating in our study.

The Context

About a million people in the UK get ill from the food they eat every year. About 20,000 of these people are admitted to hospital and about 500 of them die.

What is this study investigating?

We are investigating children's understanding of food safety and how to store, handle and cook food correctly, as well as keeping hands clean.

We are doing this in many schools and we will be looking at differences in food safety awareness of children of different ages, and at different stages of the curriculum.

This study is being organised by researchers in the University of Manchester and is funded by research organisations led by the Medical Research Council (MRC).

What will your pupils be doing?

In the lesson your pupils will watch a 3 minute film (of someone preparing food at home) available at <http://tinyurl.com/uomschools> and interact with it by clicking their mouse when they see a food safety hazard. We will ask some questions about their experience of, and interest in, food preparation and food safety.

The pupils receive a score and individual feedback on what they did and did not spot.

What will be done with the results?

Response data will be securely stored and analysed at the University of Manchester. We ask pupils their age, gender and whether (older children) are taking D&T at GCSE level. We **do not** ask for names, address etc.

You can see a copy of the questions the children are asked after conducting the clicking challenge at <C:\Work\Work\RA\Schools\SSI\schinfo\schinfo\graphics\remoteinfosheet.pdf>

If you contact us **in advance** we can provide a spreadsheet of results for children at your school

This research has been approved by the University of Manchester Research Ethics Committee.

What do I need to do?

If you are happy for your pupils to take part please follow the instructions on the Food Safety Challenge website: <http://tinyurl.com/uomschools>

If you have any questions we would be happy to speak with you. You can contact us via:

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Visit our project website to find out more about our research: <http://enigmaproject.org.uk>

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