

Information Sheet for Children's Food Survey (Online Survey)

Your child and you are being invited to take part in a research project. Before deciding it is important to understand what is involved. Please take the time to read this information sheet and discuss it with your child. If you have any questions, please email Sylvie Majorova at sylvie.majorova.23@ucl.ac.uk. The Principal researcher for this study is Dr Clare Llewellyn (c.llewellyn@ucl.ac.uk).

What is this project about? We want to understand how children (9-13 years) view information about food, eating and weight, e.g., calories on menus. This will help us understand how public health information should be designed.

Does my child have to take part? No, it is entirely voluntary. If you **do not** want them to take part please follow link at the end of this information sheet to let us know. If you do not fill in the online form, we will assume you are happy with your child taking part and your child will then be asked whether they wish to take part. Before deciding, your child will have the study explained to them and they will watch [this video](#) explaining the study.

What will taking part involve for my child?

1. Your child will be asked to complete a short form to make sure they understand what is involved and would like to take part.
2. They will complete a 30-minute online questionnaire in school. The questionnaire will ask about their household background and what they see and hear about food, eating and weight (e.g. calories on menus). They will also be asked about their feelings about eating and weight.
3. After completing the online survey, children will be given an information sheet explaining why we asked these questions and who they can speak to if they have any worries about the topics discussed. They will also watch a video summarising this information.
4. Finally, we will randomly select children who participate to receive a £25 Love2shop voucher. One in every 100 children who take part will receive a voucher.

What will taking part involve for me?

After your child takes part we will send you an email asking you to complete an online form (approx. 10 minutes) to provide information about your household background. Before completing this form you will be given more information about it and asked for your consent.

How will the data be used and will it be confidential?

We will ask for your child's name so that we can match information from the survey with the information you provide. Once information is matched, names will be removed and data will then be anonymous (i.e. it will not be possible to identify you or your child from any of the information you give us). Information from this study will be analysed by researchers at UCL and will be published in scientific papers and reports. Nobody will be able to identify you or your child from any publications. Confidentiality will be respected subject to legal constraints and professional guidelines.

What are the possible disadvantages or risks of taking part?

It's possible that a child might feel uncomfortable about answering some questions. However, it will be made clear to children that if they agree to take part, they can still choose to leave questions blank, nobody will mind.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

After taking part in this research, children will be given information to help encourage a positive body image. We hope taking part will be a pleasant and positive experience for children. More widely, this research will help ensure public health policies are designed in a way that are sensitive to children and encourage a healthy and balanced approach to eating.

How long will the data be stored for? Anonymous data will be kept for as long as it is needed for research purposes. The data will only be used for this study and will not be shared. You can withdraw your child from the study at any time without giving a reason. You can withdraw information provided by your child or yourself for up to one week after it has been provided. Your child will not be identifiable in any research outputs.

Local Data Protection Privacy Notice

The controller for this project will be University College London (UCL). The UCL Data Protection Office provides oversight of UCL activities involving the processing of personal data. Alexandra Potts, UCL data protection officer can be contacted at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk.

This 'local' privacy notice sets out the information that applies to this particular study. Further information on how UCL uses participant information can be found in our 'general' privacy notice for participants in research studies, click [here](#).

The information that is required to be provided to participants under data protection legislation (UK GDPR and DPA 2018) is provided across both the 'local' and 'general' privacy notices.

The lawful basis that will be used to process your personal data are: 'Public task' for personal data and 'Research purposes' for special category data.

Who can I speak to if I'm unhappy about the research?

If you have any concerns, contact Sylvie Majorova at sylvie.majorova.23@ucl.ac.uk. If you feel your concerns have not been handled satisfactorily, you can contact the Chair of the UCL Research Ethics Committee at ethics@ucl.ac.uk. This study has been approved by the UCL Research Ethics Committee, reference number: 21253/002

Who is funding the research? The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

Who can provide further information? Please contact Sylvie Majorova if you have any questions at sylvie.majorova.23@ucl.ac.uk, tel.: 020 3794 0272.

A copy of this information sheet has also been given to your child to pass on to you. Thank you for reading this information and considering taking part.

If you would **NOT** like your child to take part, please following this link:

[Children's Food Survey - opt out form](#)

Or scan the QR code to complete the opt-out form.

You can also email or phone us to let us know.

