SafeConsume– Evaluation of educational materials

Participant Information Sheet

Thank you for your interest in participating in our evaluation of ‘SafeConsume’ food safety teaching resources. Before you continue please review the following information to ensure you’re informed on the purpose and requirements of this study.

**What is the purpose of this study?**

We are evaluating the efficacy of ‘SafeConsume’ educational materials to improve students’ knowledge and motivation to follow best food hygiene practices at critical points.

**Who is doing the study?**

This research will be led by the e-Bug team at Public Health England, who specialise in developing health educational resources. This work forms part of the larger ‘SafeConsume’ project, a European-wide project funded by Horizon2020 and coordinated by Nofima. For more information regarding SafeConsume, please visit [www.safeconsume.eu](http://www.safeconsume.eu). The e-Bug resources can be found at [www.e-bug.eu](http://www.e-bug.eu).

**Why have I been asked to participate?**

We are seeking participation from schools that represent both urban and rural demographics and require classes between year 7 and year 13. Participation is voluntary, and you should only participate if you agree to.

**Do I have to take part?**

Participation is voluntary, you do not have to take part if you do not wish. If you do decide to take part, you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. You are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason.

**What will be involved if I take part in this study?**

You will be asked to utilise provided teacher training sessions and familiarise yourself with the lesson plan and resources, provided by Public Health England. These will be offered in PowerPoint and Word format and can be accessed and used at a time to suit you.

Two weeks following this you will be asked to conduct the lesson provided; this will span a 50-minute teaching slot. This lesson will either be observed by a visiting researcher or recorded depending on the wishes of the teacher/COVID-19 restrictions in place at the school.

We will also ask you to assist in the administration of pre/post knowledge tests for student, either to be given within suitable lesson time or alternatively as homework. Additionally, will also ask for your assistance in assigning each student with anonymised participant code to be listed on each pre/post test.

Finally, you will be asked to have a remote interview, with a PHE researcher, about your experience teaching using SafeConsume resources. The interview will be recorded on a dictaphone. You are free to leave the discussion at any time.

**What are the advantages/benefits and disadvantages/risks of taking part?**

The activities provide a learning moment on food hygiene and safety. In addition, this research provides educators and students with the opportunity to participate in the development of educational materials aimed at their age group.

We appreciate that teaching time is carefully allocated and that educators are now facing additional pressures relating to COVID-19. We are offering remuneration of £40 in high-street vouchers to participating teachers as well as e-Bug materials/pencils for pupils.

**Can I withdraw from the study at any time?**

You are free to withdraw from this study at any time. You do not have to give a reason for withdrawing. If you withdraw your participation following any stage of data collection, this data will not be used, and will be stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations of 2018.

**Will the information obtained in the study be confidential?**

The recordings will be transcribed by an external agency. Any names or personal information will be removed, and any other personal information provided will be kept strictly confidential. All information is to be handled in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations of 2018.

**What will happen to the results of the study?**

The results of the study will be used to inform the further development of the ‘SafeConsume’ educational resources and will form the basis of a publication. If you wish, you may request a summary of the results when the study is complete.

**Who has reviewed this study?**

This study has gained Public Health England’s REGG approval.

**Who do I contact in the event of a complaint?**

Complaints Manager
Strategy Directorate
Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8UG

Alternatively, you can e-mail complaints@phe.gov.uk

Full details at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england/about/complaints-procedure>

**If you agree to take part, would like more information or have any questions or concerns about the study please contact**

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Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet.