

If I have any other questions?

We hope this leaflet answers the questions you may have. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the contacts listed below.



Leading education
and social research
Institute of Education
University of London

Thomas Coram Research Unit (TCRU)

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Thank you for your interest in this study. We very much hope that you would like to take part and look forward to speaking to you soon.

Fitting food into the lives of working families



What is the research about?

Lots of parents have jobs. Many younger children attend childcare, as well as school, while their parents are at work. We want to find out more about how children eat in these different places as well as at home so that we can learn how working families manage food and eating in their daily lives. This research will help us to better understand what helps and hinders working families in feeding their children.

Who is carrying out the study?

The Thomas Coram Research Unit (TCRU), Institute of Education, University of London is funded by the Food Standards Agency and Economic and Social Research Council, to carry out the study. TCRU is independent of any government departments and political parties and carries out a wide range of research projects with a focus on families and children.

How was my address chosen?

Your address was supplied to us by the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) on behalf of the Food Standards Agency. This is because when you took part in the National Diet and Nutrition Survey you answered 'yes' to the following question: "If at some future date the FSA wanted to conduct a further study from the results of this survey, would you be willing to be recontacted to help again?" We chose your household because the records show that there are young children resident and also that the adult/s in the household do paid work.

What will the research involve?

We are carrying out interviews with parents and children to find out how food and eating fit into their lives. If they want to, children can do drawing and other activities, which we will bring, to help tell us about food and eating from their points of view. In the next few days, someone from the TCRU research team will phone you to tell you more about the study, answer your questions and ask whether

you and your child are willing to take part. This will be the same child that took part in the National Diet and Nutrition Survey.

Do I get anything from the study?

This study is publicly funded so our funds are limited. But we are able to offer a £20 voucher per household as a small token of our appreciation.
<http://www.highstreetvouchers.com/gift-vouchers/love2shop>

We will keep you informed about the progress and results of the study with a newsletter.

What will happen to any information I give?

Any information you give us is confidential. This means it will not be attributed personally to you and will be kept anonymous. We will only publish your child's drawings as long as you and your child give permission and they don't show recognisable people or places. We will check that you understand all of this and ask for your consent when we visit. Any personal details (for example, names, address) will be kept confidential, held securely and will not be used for any purpose beyond this specific project unless you have given permission to do so. All personal details will be removed from our records on completion of the project unless you agree that we can keep them to get in touch with you again.

In accordance with the ethical procedures of the Institute of Education we will ensure that you and your family will not be identifiable by other people. We will check that you understand all of this and ask for your consent when we visit.

TCRU complies with the professional code of conduct of the British Sociological Association and the study has been approved by the Faculty of Children and Health Research Ethics Committee at the Institute of Education.

The research team is highly experienced and has carried out a lot of research with children and families.