



Compass Food Safety Management System

Food Safety Conversation Cards

Unit Name	
Unit Address	
Unit Number	

WE LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER

FS.SC.001.02

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Food Safety Conversation No2: Personal Hygiene

FS.SC.002.03

Key Learning What You Need To Know ☐ Hands must be washed before handling ready to eat foods. Good personal hygiene can help **6 STEPS TO EFFECTIVE HAND WASHING** minimise cross contamination ☐ Hands must also be washed after visiting the toilet, handling rubbish, handling or preparing raw food, and ensure the food you cleaning, smoking or eating. prepare, cook and serve to your ■ Effective Handwashing Technique: customers is safe to eat Wet vour hands with warm water Apply hand soap (recommended Ecolab Epicare 5c) Lather and scrub hands for at least 30 seconds Rinse for 10 seconds Suitable hat or hair Turn off the tap using a paper towel COMPASS covering Use additional paper towel to dry hands. (only sleepe ☐ Hair must be clean, neat and tied back or kept covered if handling open food. ☐ With the exception of plain wedding rings and plain sleeper earrings, jewellery must not be worn in good condition while preparing food. Clean hands ☐ Uniform (if provided) must be clean and put on until you arrive at work. Short nails No lewellery ☐ Wearing gloves has not been proven to be a safer method of handling, when food compared to the Clean use of effective hand washing techniques as cross contamination from raw to high risk food can still protective occur and wearing gloves can give a false sense of security. apron Suitable work ☐ Hand to mouth contact must be avoided while carrying out food handling activities so eating, drinking wear for and smoking must be avoided while on duty. indoor use ☐ All food handlers must report signs of illness immediately to their line manager. All food handlers Suitable nor slip shoes - no suffering from symptoms of nausea, stomach cramps, vomiting or diarrhoea must be excluded from onen toes work and not return until they have been symptom free for 48 hours. **HACCP Stages Colleague Validation More Information** Give examples of when hands must be washed. More information can be found within the **Good** How long should hands be washed to ensure bacteria are removed effectively? All food handling stages Hygiene Practice Guide No: 2 Personal What type of jewellery is permitted? Hygiene and the HSE website What time period must food handlers remain symptom free before returning to work?

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Food Safety Conversation No3: Pest Control

FS.SC.003.03

Key Learning

Following this conversation, you will be able to effectively identify signs of pest activity in order to quickly report and remedy any pests present and therefore minimise food safety risks and avoid legal action



- ☐ Check food deliveries for signs of pest damage (chewed / split packaging).
- □ Do not leave food deliveries outside or unattended always put away into designated food storage immediately following delivery.
- ☐ Check your working area daily for signs of pest activity.
- □ Recognise the signs of pest activity contaminated food / droppings / gnaw marks on furniture or equipment / chewed packaging.
- ☐ Report any signs of pest to your supervisor immediately.



Area	Signs of Activity	Good Hygiene Practice	Corrective Action
Floor	Look for pests (live or dead), droppings / urine /gnaw marks Particularly look along skirting boards and under equipment	No live / dead pests, droppings/urine/grease marks found on floor	Sweep up droppings / clear urine / grease with disposable paper towel before mopping and disinfecting floor
Shelving & Work Surfaces	Look for pests (live or dead) droppings / urine / gnaw marks Remove items and check behind objects	Shelving cleaned and sanitised prior to daily use	Remove any debris / contamination. Clean with soapy cloth then sanitise and wipe with disposable paper towel
Crockery & Utensils	Remove crockery and utensils form their containers. Look inside for evidence of pests / droppings	Clean crockery/utensils stored in plastic lidded containers overnight	Unprotected crockery/utensils must be washed (cleaned) prior to placing in the dishwasher (disinfection)
Food	Visually check food for signs of gnaw marks, holes in packaging, spilled product on shelving, droppings	No food left out. All ambient food stored in plastic lidded containers overnight	Any food found to have evidence of pest damage must be disposed of
Disposable Packaging	Check that food packaging intact with no droppings / urine / gnaw marks	Food packaging stored in plastic lidded containers to reduce risk of contamination	Any damaged / contaminated packaging must be disposed of









HACCP Stages

- Receipt
- Storage
- Preparation
- Cooking
- Service

Colleague Validation

- 1. Describe the signs of pest damage you should look for during delivery checks.
- 2. How frequently should you check your work area for signs of pests?
- 3. Describe the typical signs of a pest infestation?
- I. How quickly should you report signs of pest activity?

More Information

More information can be found within the Good

Hygiene Practice Guide No: 3 Pest Control

and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No4: Cross Contamination

FS.SC.004.02

Key Learning

Cross contamination is one of the main ways food poisoning can occur. In order to look after the safety of our customers and provide safe food to eat you need to ensure that cross contamination of food is avoided



- Cross contamination is the transfer of harmful bacteria from raw foods to ready to eat foods.
 Cross contamination must be avoided at all times as ready to eat food will not be cooked / re-heated
- ☐ Cross contamination can occur from:
 - Direct contact with raw foods such as raw meat and poultry, fish and shellfish, raw fruit and vegetables;
 - Indirect contact from the transfer of bacteria via hands, clothing, knives, chopping boards, equipment, work surfaces.
- ☐ You can prevent cross contamination by:
 - Checking deliveries to ensure raw & ready to eat foods are separate:

further which would kill any harmful bacteria that have transferred to the food.

- Store raw foods separate from ready to eat foods, either in separate refrigerators or raw food at the bottom, below ready to eat foods;
- Designate a separate raw food preparation area within the kitchen where only raw food is to be handled and prepared;
- If separate areas are not available, prepare ready to eat foods separately, before raw foods;
- Ensure all work surfaces are cleaned down and sanitised after the preparation of raw foods;
- Always wash your hands thoroughly after handling raw foods;
- Use separate equipment and utensils for the preparation of raw and ready to eat foods, ensuring all items are cleaned and sanitised between use:
- Separate complex catering equipment such as mincers, slicers, blenders and vacuum pack machines must be provided and labelled for either raw or ready to eat foods;
- Provide separate labelled probe thermometers for taking cooking / hot hold temperature checks and other tasks such as delivery and storage temp checks;
- Designate a raw food preparation sink where possible for washing raw vegetables and fruit, or thoroughly clean and sanitise a shared sink between use.
- ☐ The use of colour coded equipment can help to minimise cross contamination, e.g. colour coded knives, chopping boards, cleaning cloths etc.
- ☐ Familiarise yourself with any colour code systems, such as for knives & boards, used in your kitchen.





HACCP Stages

- Receipt
- Storage
- Preparation
- Cooking
- Service

Colleague Validation

- 1. Can you describe the different types of cross contamination?
- 2. Give examples of how you would avoid cross contamination during storage?
- 3. Give examples of how you would avoid cross contamination during food preparation?
- . Can you identify the uses of the different colour coded chopping boards?

More Information

More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 4
Cross Contamination and the HSE
website

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Food Safety Conversation No5: Food Labelling & Shelf Life

FS.SC.005.02

Key Learning It is a legal requirement to

It is a legal requirement to ensure food is properly labelled with certain information to help you and the customer know what is in the food and how long it is safe to use or consume the food before it must be discarded



- What You Need To Know
- ☐ 'Use By' dates relate to food safety and food must not be cooked, sold, frozen, consumed or used in any way past this date. It is illegal to sell any food that has passed its 'Use By' date.
- □ 'Best Before' dates relate to food quality and food is safe to eat after this date, depending upon the taste, texture and general quality of foods. Products with a 'Best Before' date may be used beyond this date, unless client site rules require 'Best Before' dates to be stringently observed.
- ☐ Do not use ANY out of date foodstuffs past their 'Use By' date.
- ☐ Sandwiches/wraps etc Apply a shelf life of two days (day of production +1).
- ☐ Chilled / Ready To Eat food Wrap or store in sealed containers and date code with a shelf life of 72 hours
- ☐ Foods prepared and cooked in the unit then chilled and frozen have a food label with up to 6 months shelf life.
- ☐ Food Delivery Checks must include a check of product labels to ensure they have sufficient shelf life to fit in with your menu schedule.
- □ All ready to eat foods with 'Use By' dates are checked daily at end of service and logged on the Closing HSE Checklist.
- ☐ Whenever transferring shelf life dates or other product information from the outer packaging or the food manufacturer's label, only the approved Compass food storage labels must be used



	DATE	TIME	DISCAL	RD ON TIME	INITIALS
DECANTED/ OPENED					
REFRIGERATED					
FROZEN					
DEFROSTED					
This item conta	ins the followi	ng allergen	S		
O Peanuts	○ Fish	0	Soya	O Mus	stard
ONuts	○Eggs	0	Sesame Seeds	OLup	in
O Crustaceans (Shellfish)	O Milk	0	Celery	OSulp	ohur
O Molluscs	O Cereals	ino			

HACCP Stages

- Receipt
- Storage
- Preparation
- Cooling & Re-heating
- Food Service & Display
- Vending

Colleague Validation

- Describe what a 'Use By' date is.
- 2. Describe what a Best Before date is.
- 3. What shelf life would you give in unit made sandwiches?
- . What shelf life would you give in unit made frozen food?

More Information

More information can be found within the Good
Hygiene Practice Guide No: 5 Food
Labelling & Shelf Life and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No6: Food Delivery & Storage

FS.SC.006.03

Key Learning

What You Need To Know

Properly inspecting and checking delivered food products is an essential step to ensure food quality and safety. Storing food under the right environmental conditions protects it from contamination and prevents bacterial growth.

- · ALWAYS ensure raw and ready-to-eat foods are kept separate during delivery, receipt and storage.
- Check all food deliveries for shelf life, damaged packaging, and signs of pest damage or infestation. Record all checks on the Food Delivery Record form.
- Check the temperatures off all chilled and frozen food deliveries. Ensure the foods are within the
 required temperature ranges. Frozen foods must be -18°C to 23°C and chilled foods must be at or
 below +5°C.
- For all chilled or frozen deliveries either take a copy of the printed vehicle digital temperature
 display reading, take between pack temperature readings using a dedicated probe thermometer
 or use an infrared thermometer to check the temperature of foods. In ROI a physical between pack
 temperature reading is required.
- Store foods at the correct temperatures: Frozen foods must be -18°C to -23°C and chilled foods 0°C to +5°C.
- Ambient foods must be stored in cool, dry and well-ventilated conditions.
- Make sure all foods are labeled and dated, and adopt the "first in first out" rule when replenishing stock
- Raw foods must be separated from cooked and ready-to-eat foods, ideally by storing them in separate fridges. Alternatively store ready-to-eat foods above eggs and unwashed fresh produce. Raw meat, poultry and fish must be stored below all other foods.
- Dry goods must be stored off the floor on suitable shelving, with access all round for cleaning and inspection. Opened packages must be sealed or decanted into suitable lidded containers.
- Fridge temperatures must be checked and recorded twice a day, freezers once per day. The first check should take place within 1 hour of the kitchen opening.
- A food simulant (lard, jelly, water bottle etc) must be used for manual fridge temperature checks, either using a probe thermometer or an infrared thermometer.
- Check the accuracy of all probe and infrared thermometers every month.













HACCP Stages

Colleague Validation

More Information

ReceiptStorage

- 1. What should you check during food deliveries?
- 2. What are the correct operating temperatures for refrigerators and freezers?
- 3. How do you avoid cross contamination of ready-to-eat foods during storage?
- 4. How do you check the operating temperature of refrigerators?

More information can be found within the **Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 6 Food Delivery & Storage** and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No7: Food Preparation

FS.SC.007.02

Key Learning What You Need To Know ☐ There are principally 4 sources of food contamination: The preparation stage of any food operation is the most Physical important with respect to Chemical controlling the risks of Bacterial Allergenic contamination. It is essential in our role as a food handler to ☐ Always wash hands in warm water with soap and dry them using disposable paper towels before handling any food. know these risks and adopt the control measures to minimise ☐ Follow any food safety instructions on food packaging regarding the preparation and handling of food. food contamination ☐ Prepare food as close to service time as possible, keeping perishable foods under refrigeration. ☐ Where possible provide separate work areas for raw and ready to eat foods. ☐ Where this is not possible segregate via time and thoroughly clean and sanitise areas between use. ☐ Follow your units colour coded chopping board system if one is implemented. ☐ Do not use complex equipment for both raw and ready-to-eat foods e.g. vacuum packers, food slicers. food mixers and food processers. ☐ Thoroughly wash salad and fruit to be sold as ready to eat with clean water to remove visible dirt. ☐ Ensure food allergens are handled and prepared carefully to avoid cross contamination, use separate boards and utensils. ☐ Make sure you know what ingredients are in a food item prepared and made on site in order that the correct allergen information can be given to the customer if requested. ☐ Sanitisers used to clean work surfaces must meet the standard BSEN1276 and be used in accordance to the manufacture's instructions, including the correct dilution and contact times. ☐ Where possible avoid using glass in food handling areas and always check any glassware used for signs of chipping / cracks / breaks and do not use if any damage is found. **More Information HACCP Stages Colleague Validation** 1. What are the different types of food contamination and give examples? 2. How can you avoid cross contamination? More information can be found within the Good Preparation 3. Why do you need to wash fruit & vegetables before use? **Hygiene Practice Guide No: 7 Food** Food Service & Display 4. Why is it important to know what ingredients go into a dish you are preparing? Preparation and the HSE website What checks should you do if using glass products within your kitchen?

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Food Safety Conversation No8: Defrosting

FS.SC.008.02

Key Learning What You Need To Know If food is not thoroughly ☐ Freezing food does not kill harmful bacteria but it will prevent growth. As the food begins to warm defrosted before cooking, heat during thawing, bacteria begin to multiply slowly will be used to thaw the food ☐ All food must be completely defrosted prior to cooking or reheating, unless the manufacturer's rather than cook it. There is a instructions indicate the food is to be cooked from frozen. danger that a core temperature of +75°C, which is required to kill □ Factors affecting defrosting times: any harmful bacteria present, Defrosting times are faster if food is frozen and then defrosted in smaller portions. will not be achieved Loose wrapping, which traps an insulating layer of air, increases thawing time. Foil wrap can reduce heat radiation and slows thawing time. Tight packaging, such as vacuum packaging or food wrap, has little effect on thawing times. COMPASS • Food will thaw more quickly at ambient temperature. The main disadvantage is that, at higher temperatures, bacteria can multiply more freely and may reach unacceptable levels. ☐ It is recommended that all foods are defrosted slowly in a refrigerator (between 0°C and +5°C), ensuring all raw foods are placed at the bottom of the refrigerator, separated from ready to eat foods to avoid cross contamination ☐ Place defrosting raw food items in a container or receptacle to ensure meltwater does not cross contaminate other foods Only defrost foods in a microwave if recommended by the manufacturers instructions using the defrost setting only. Ensure the food is spread evenly on the turntable and stir frequently. Defrosting food at room temperature is permissible if it is defrosted in a controlled environment which is free from sources of contamination. Do not use running cold water to speed up the process. ☐ Cook and / or serve any defrosted within its remaining shelf life ■ Do not re-freeze any defrosted foods **HACCP Stages More Information Colleague Validation** 1. What are the dangers of not thoroughly defrosting food before cooking it? 2. What factors can affect the time in which foods are defrosted? More information can be found within the Good Preparation Cooling & Re-heating 3. How would you safely defrost food in a refrigerator? Hygiene Practice Guide No: 8 Defrosting Food Service & Display 4. and the HSE website How would you ensure food is properly defrosted in a microwave?

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Can you re-freeze defrosted food?





Food Safety Conversation No9: Cooking

FS.SC.009.03

Key Learning What You Need To Know Cooking is a critical step to ☐ Food poisoning micro-organisms are killed through the correct Time and Temperature combination. ensure that any bacteria that ☐ Food must be cooked thoroughly to achieve a core temperature of +75°C. may be present in food are ☐ Temperature check all protein foods using a sanitised probe thermometer to ensure completion of the completely killed and the food is cooking process, and record the temperature on the Food Production Temperature record form or the safe to eat for your customers digital HACCP equivalent. □ Never undercook rolled joints / minced or diced meat / poultry / pork as these are high risk food items and require thorough cooking to reduce the risk of food poisoning bacteria being present. □ Some whole cuts of meat and some fish products may be cooked to a lower temperature. For whole cuts of meats required "pink" or "rare" check to ensure the outer surface of the meat is fully sealed and browned off before serving. Whole pieces of fish (e.g. tuna steaks) can be served 'rare' as long as they have been fully seared on the outside. ☐ Also visually check food to ensure it has been cooked thoroughly: Check the centre of fish or near the bone to make sure that the colour and texture has changed. Shellfish such as prawns and scallops will change in colour and texture when they are The juices from pork, rolled joints and poultry should be clear and not have any red of pink in them. Ensure poultry and minced meat products are not pink inside Check that pizza bases are cooked and that the toppings are bubbling ☐ Food temperature probes must be accuracy checked every month using melting ice or boiling water and recorded in the HSE Logbook or on the Probe Thermometer Accuracy Record Form. **HACCP Stages Colleague Validation More Information** 1. What is the standard Compass cook temperature to ensure thorough cooking? More information can be found in the Good Preparation 2. Give examples of visual checks you can undertake to check food has been cooked properly. Cooking Hygiene Practice Guide No: 9 Cooking and How do you ensure a food probe thermometer is working correctly? Food Service & Display the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No10: Cooling & Reheating

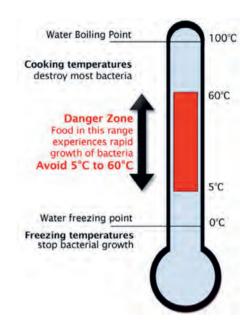
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Key Learning

Effective and swift cooling techniques allows the safe storage of in unit made foods. Re-heating foods to the correct temperatures ensures any remaining bacteria present in food will be killed through heat



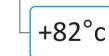
- ☐ Micro-organisms that cause illness and food spoilage can grow between 5°C and 63°C. This range is known as the Danger Zone, and keeping foods out of this zone reduces the risks of food poisoning.
- ☐ Cool food as quickly as possible after cooking and place into refrigerated storage.
- ☐ Cooling times can be reduced by:
 - Portioning the food into smaller containers
 - Cutting or slicing larger joints before cooling
 - Using shallow / pre cooled containers (5cm depth)
 - Using ice baths to rapidly cool the food
 - Rinsing under cold potable water (e.g. for rice or pasta)
- ☐ When cooling food in a blast chiller ensure the chilling process starts within 30 mins of the food being cooked, and that if is cooled to a temperature of 5°C or less before placing into refrigerated storage.
- ☐ When cooling food at room temperature choose a cooler area of the kitchen. Cover the food and leave at ambient room temp for a maximum of 90 mins before placing into refrigerated storage.
- ☐ Record the following information on the Food Production Temperature Record form:
 - Type of food
 - Time & Temperature of the food when cooling began
 - Time & Temperature of the food when transferred to refrigeration
- ☐ If food is cooling slower than expected, break the food down into smaller quantities, transfer food to newly cooled containers or place food container in cold water and ice several times.
- ☐ It is important to re-heat food thoroughly to ensure any remaining harmful bacteria are killed off.
- □ Reheat foods to the correct temperature (75°C England / Wales / N.I. 82°C Scotland).
- ☐ Record reheat temperatures on the Food Production Temperature Record form.



Reheating Food



Scotland



HACCP Stages

- Preparation
- Cooling & Re-heating
- Food Service & Display

Colleague Validation

- 1. What is temperature range is known as the "Danger Zone" which you must avoid keeping food at?
- 2. What practical steps could you take to help cool food quickly?
- 3. What is the maximum time period allowed to cool food at ambient room temperature?
 - What are the required reheating temperatures?

More Information

More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 10 Cooling & Reheating and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No11: Food Service & Display

FS.SC.011.02

Key Learning	What You Need To Know		
Displaying food in a safe	Cold Food Display		
environment free from potential sources of contamination will ensure we look after our	☐ Ready to eat foods must be kept cold at 8°C or below (5°C in Ireland). Fridges and chilled display cabinets should operate at 5°C or below.	Hold above +63°C	
customers and serve good quality, safe food.	☐ Exception: The law allows cold food to be displayed out of chilled storage (above 8°C, 5°C in Ireland) for a single period of up to 4 hours only. After this period it must be disposed of.	Hot	
	☐ Ensure cold display units are operating to temperature before loading, and do not raise food above the 'load' line of the chilled food well as this will affect cold air circulation.	Limit to 2 hrs if displayed at	
	Deli Bars	ambient	
COMPASS	☐ Ensure suitable precautions are taken to minimise the risk of allergen cross contamination on salad bars / deli counters by using separate service utensils and equipment for different food types.	Hold below	
& Display	☐ Adopt good personal hygiene measures. Always wash your hands after handling money.	+8°C (5°C	
Clast Hypere Product Claster (pr. 11	Hot Food Display and Hot Holding	Cold in Ireland)	
	☐ Food must be cooked and/or reheated thoroughly before hot holding begins.	Buffet	
	☐ Food in hot holding must be kept above 63°C.	Limit to 4 hrs	
	■ Exception: The law permits hot food to be displayed out of temperature control for a single period only of up to 2 hours post cooking. After this period it must be disposed of.	if displayed at ambient	
Street-law Prijake Create 10 199-11 Street-law Number 10 199-11 Street-law Number 10 199-11 Street-law Number 10 199-11 Street-law Number 199-11 S	☐ Preheat hot holding equipment e.g. bain-marie/hot cabinet before you put any food in it.		
	Monitoring	Mixed Limit to 2 hrs	
	☐ Monitor the temperature of one protein food item on each cold / hot display counter and record on the Food Service Temperature Record from.	Buffet if displayed at ambient	
	☐ Take temperature readings at the beginning of each service period and every 90 minutes thereafter.		
HACCP Stages	Colleague Validation	More Information	
Hot HoldFood Service & Display	 What temperature should hot food on display be held at? How frequently should you monitor and record the temperature of hot and cold food on display? What are the exemption times for holding hot and cold food out of temperature control? How long should a mixed buffet (hot & cold foods) be left out for clients? 	More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 11 Food Service & Display and the HSE website	

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Food Safety Conversation No12: Cleaning

FS.SC.012.02

Key Learning What You Need To Know **Definitions** Cleaning food premises and equipment ensures that harmful ☐ Cleaning – The act of removing dirt using water and a cleaning agent ☐ Disinfection – To clean using a substance that kills food poisoning micro-organisms food poisoning bacteria cannot ☐ Sanitising – A cleaning process of reducing microbiological contamination to a level that is acceptable multiply and cause harm, as well □ 2 stage clean – A cleaning program that involves both general cleaning and disinfection / sanitising as helping to ensure the ☐ Clean as you go – Removal of general debris / cleaning up spillages, throughout the task premises are kept clean, tidy ☐ Deep Clean – The periodic cleaning of walls / floors / ceilings / equipment / ventilation etc which does and pest free not form part of the daily cleaning schedule Guidance Stage 1 ☐ Use disposable cloths or paper towels where possible for cleaning food surfaces. COMPASS using correct concentration as ecommended by manufacture ☐ Where separate areas for raw and ready to eat foods have Remove food debris with pape towel or suitable tool been provided, avoid cross contamination by using colour coded cleaning equipment such as cloths and designating cleaning spray Surface clean with a colour coded / disposable cloth or bottles specifically for use in that area. ■ A two stage cleaning process will be needed where food contact surfaces, sinks or equipment have come into contact with raw meat Stage 2 or unwashed fruit and veg and always at the end of the day. · Re-spray sanitiser ☐ Store cleaning equipment and chemicals away from food in a suitable Wipe with disposable cloth or cleaning store to avoid contamination of food blue paper towel and leave in contact with work surface for ☐ Re-usable cloths and towels should be effectively segregated (e.g. colour-coded) and suitably washed at high temperatures at the end of each day in order to destroy bacteria especially E.coli O157 **HACCP Stages Colleague Validation More Information** What is the difference between disinfection and sanitising 1. More information can be found within the 2. Describe a 2 stage cleaning process All Stages **Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 12** 3. How would you avoid cross contamination when cleaning Cleaning and the HSE website What would you do to demonstrate "clean as you go" within your work area

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Food Safety Conversation No13: Allergens

FS.SC.013.03

Key Learning

death due to allergic reactions

Understanding and following the There are 14 major food allergens which must be declared. However. allergen procedures will ensure people can be allergic to any food the safety of your customers and or ingredient, such as pea protein, potentially avoid serious injury or stone fruit or coconut.









What You Need To Know

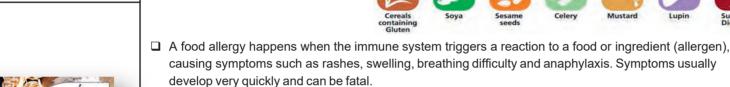












☐ A food intolerance is an adverse reaction to food or ingredient which doesn't involve the immune system. Symptoms include stomach upsets, bloating and headaches and usually develop more slowly.

Avoiding Allergen Cross-Contact

- ☐ Use separate chopping boards and utensils for each dish.
- ☐ Clean down work surfaces, equipment and your hands between handling know allergen containing foods and before preparing an allergen free meal.
- ☐ Keep opening dry goods in sealed containers or tightly covered.
- Use separate fryers for known allergen foods (e.g. scampi / battered fish) and non allergen foods (e.g. chips)
- Use separate cooking equipment / utensils when cooking an known allergen free item

Kitchen Process



















HACCP Stages

- Food Storage
- **Cross Contamination**
- Preparation
- Cooking
- Service
- Hospitality

Colleague Validation

- Explain the differences between an allergic reaction and an intolerance?
- 2. What are the 14 major food allergens?
- 3. Why is it important to follow a recipe without making any changes?
- 4. Give examples of how can you avoid allergen cross-contact?
- 5. How do we inform customers of what allergen ingredients are in a menu item?

More Information

More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 13 Allergens and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No14: Catering Premises & Equipment

FS.SC.014.03

Key Learning

What You Need To Know

Good design, construction, location of equipment and workflow of a kitchen help minimise the risk of crosscontamination and aid cleaning and maintenance.

Structural Requirements

- Kitchen design should allow workflow from delivery, to preparation, through to cooking and service.
- Separate storage should be provided for raw and ready-to-eat foods.
- Walls, floors and work surfaces should be constructed of materials suitable to allow effective cleaning.
- Food premises should be proofed to prevent pest access and harbourage.
- Suitable mechanical or natural ventilation must be provided to ensure that heat and/or humidity does not build up.
- Wash hand basins, supplied with hot and cold water, bactericidal soap and single use towels, must be provided and used only to wash hands.
- Separate sinks designated for food and sinks for equipment washing should be available. Where there is only one sink, this must be thoroughly cleaned and sanitised between uses (not acceptable in ROI).



Food Equipment

- Separate, clearly designated, complex equipment must be provided for raw and for ready-to-eat foods, to avoid cross-contamination.
- Wood or wooden products are not recommended unless they are well maintained and can be effectively cleaned and disinfected.
- Lighting must be sufficient to allow for safe working and easy inspection of all areas.
- Food service ware and crockery should be checked for damage, such as chips and cracks, before use. Any
 damaged items must be discarded to prevent foreign body contamination.

Maintenance

- Food contact surfaces, equipment and utensils must be maintained in good condition and checked before use. If damaged they should be removed from service and discarded or clearly labelled "Do Not Use"
- Any defective structure, equipment or utensils should be recorded on the Compass Repair & Maintenance Record form, or client based system, and reported to the correct maintenance provider to fix.









All Stages

Colleague Validation

- 1. What should wash hand basins be provided with?
- 2. Where a single sink is provided for equipment and food, what should you do between uses?
- 3. What should you check for before using food equipment?
- 4. Give examples of separate raw and ready-to-eat food equipment?
- 5. How would you report defective food equipment?

More Information

More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No:14
Catering Premises & Equipment and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No15: Vac Packing

FS.SC.015.04

Key Learning	What You Need To Know	
Vac Packing machines are a complex piece of equipment and must be kept clean and clearly labelled as either for "raw" or "ready to eat" foods	 Separate vacuum packing machines MUST be used and clearly labelled for "raw" or "ready-to-eat" foods only Vacuum packing bags used for raw or ready-to eat foods must be stored separately and ideally within reach of the designated vacuum packer and be clearly labelled. 	
Vacuum Packing	 Only those listed on the Authorised User List (after completing training) are permitted to use and clean the vacuum packing machines. Close attention should be paid to the hidden areas and removable plates, and the minimum contact time on the sanitiser observed. Good personal hygiene is important at all times, and food handlers MUST wash their hands thoroughly before 	READY-TO-EAT USE ONLY
READY-TO-EAT USE ONLY WORKER TO SERVE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	 and after using the vacuum packing machines. Where possible, direct handling of the food should be kept to a minimum. Ensure every packet is suitably and sufficiently sealed with a tight fit round the food and the seal intact. Check packets for excess air and/or leaks to minimise the risk of contamination and subsequent growth of bacteria. Vacuum packed ready-to-eat high-risk food must be stored at a maximum of 5°C or below. Date labelling (shelf-life) for in-unit made chilled foods must not exceed 7 days from the date and time of production (3 days in Republic of Ireland) and 6 months (3 in Republic of Ireland) for frozen in unit made foods Clear 'production' and 'use-by' dates should be put on all packets using the Compass date labels. Any out of date chilled and frozen vacuum-packed products must be discarded, even if the food appears acceptable to the senses. Vacuum packers must be serviced annually by a competent engineer, and records retained on file. 	RAW USE ONLY
HACCP Stages	Colleague Validation	More Information
All Stages	 Why is there a need to have separate raw and ready-to-eat vacuum packers? Should raw and ready-to-eat vacuum packers and packaging materials be clearly labelled? All food handlers who may use the vacuum packers appropriately trained, and understand the cross-contamination risks and hazards associated with vacuum packers? Are the vacuum packers being adequately cleaned before and after use? 	More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 15 Vac Packing and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No16: Bar Service

FS.SC.016.02

Key Learning	Learning What You Need To Know		
The quality and shelf life of beer can be affected by wild yeasts, mould and spores, therefore it is important to have a regular cleaning regime in place for structures, equipment and plant.	Beer Line Cleaning: Ensure that full PPE is worn when carrying out the beer line cleaning. Use only the authorised beer line cleaning detergent available from Ecolab. Dilute the detergent with water following the manufacturer guidelines. Draw the detergent solution through at least 3 times during the line cleaning Aim to leave the detergent solution in place on each pull for about 10 minutes. Do not leave for longer than 2 hours as this can taint the pipes. Flush through with a minimum of 8 pints of clean water at the end of line cleaning to remove all traces of detergent. Check with litmus paper that there are no detergent traces. Put signage in place to warn all colleagues that line cleaning is in operation. Leave unused lines charged with water, BUT the lines must be put through the line cleaning process weekly. Ice Machines Ice machines can be a source of Legionella bacteria and E-coli due to unhygienic use and poor cleanliness Ensure that before you proceed to use an ice machine or decant ice that you thoroughly wash your hands first Ice scoops must never be left in the ice machines or ice wells. Ice scoops should be stored in a separate sanitised container and washed in a dishwasher daily A twice daily clean of the external and hand contact surfaces of the ice machine should be conducted using the sanitiser spray and ensuring a minimum 1 minute contact time. Every two weeks the ice machines should be emptied and cleaned internally and sanitised	CLEAN Beer Line Dirty Line with beerstone calcium buildup	
HACCP Stages	Colleague Validation	More Information	
Bar Service Hospitality	 How many times should you draw the detergent through a beer line before flushing with water? How many pints of clean water should you pull through a beer line after cleaning? What do you do with Ice scoops after use? How frequently do you clean an ice machine? 	More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 16 Bar Service and the HSE website	

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Steamplicity / Esteem sites

only

2.



Food Safety Conversation No17: Steamplicity / Esteem

FS.SC.017.02

More information can be found within the

Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 17

Steamplicity and the HSE website

Key Learning What You Need To Know To understand the specific Steamplicity and Esteem are brand names for a unique product produced by Compass to produce fresh nutritious meals in healthcare, schools and business environments. The method of cooking allows for different requirements for the delivery, products to be cooked together - such as fish and vegetables at the same time. Cooking takes between 3-5 storage, cooking and service of minutes for plated meals 6-10 minutes for bulk meals. Steamplicity plated meals, **Delivery controls:** Steamplicity bulk meals, and ☐ Check vehicle temperature via print out prior to offloading the products Esteem meals ☐ Remove to chilled storage within 30 minutes of delivery ☐ ALL Steamplicity products should be between 0°c and +5°c ☐ If temperature above 5°C destructive product test needs to be taken – refer to cuisine centre for guidance ☐ If between +8°c - +10°c delivery can be accepted if used within 12 hours if not delivery MUST be rejected. ☐ Chill unit must be able to chill below 5°c rapidly and record on the Steamplicity/Esteem delivery record. Storage: ☐ Must be controlled between 0°c- +5°c Plated meals should not be stacked more than two high □ Check stock rotation and shelf life Pick and Pack: ☐ Must be controlled between 0°c-+5°c (can be picked up to +8°C but only for a limited time) ☐ Place in pre chilled transport containers ☐ Late or individual meals to be transported in insulated chilled bags ☐ Record temperature on dispatch pick and pack record – on leaving chilled storage Satellite/ward Storage: ☐ Must be stored between 0°c-5°c and stored separate or above other food items ☐ Remove from chilled storage as close to cooking time as possible Max. 15 minutes Cooking: Check seal is intact and meal in date ☐ Check number on bar coded label and cook on correct programme in microwave with valve facing up. ☐ After cooking leave for 30 seconds for pressure to equalize. ☐ Using cleaned probe check temperature of protein item. Temperature to achieve: Steamplicity plated 82°c / Esteem 82°c / Steamplicity Bulk 75°C ☐ If temperature not achieved return to microwave and boost on 0 for 30 seconds(plated and Esteem / I min for bulk- if temperature still not achieved dispose of the meal. Report fault to manager. ☐ Record each meal temperature on the Steamplicity/esteem cooking record. **HACCP Stages Colleague Validation More Information** 1. What temperature should Steamplicity/ Esteem products be delivered?

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How would you transfer a late meal and where would you record the temperature.

Give the process you would follow to cook a Steamplicity/Esteem meal





Food Safety Conversation No18: Food Waste

FS.SC.021.02

Key Learning What You Need To Know Food waste not only generates Typical of food waste include: dangerous greenhouse gases ☐ Spoilage – food that is damaged or exceeded its shelf life when it decomposes but it costs the food industry £2.5b pounds per ☐ Trimmings – Off cuts or trimmings following food preparation before cooking year. Help protect the environment ☐ Cooking Errors – over cooking or damaged / contaminated food and your units profitability by ☐ Over Production – cooked and prepared food not sold after service reducing food waste from your catering operation. ☐ Plate Waste – food that is served but not eaten ☐ Compass have identified a 3-pronged approach to minimise food waste: ☐ Prevention - To reduce the amount of food waste that goes unsold/uneaten. 1. Recovery - To donate surplus food to people in need. 2. Recycling - To divert food waste from sewer and landfill. The main ways to prevent food waste are: ☐ Good Menu Planning taking into consideration seasonal trends, predicted participation volumes and the weather ☐ Ensuring fridges and freezers are operating at the correct temperatures and food shelf life dates are well managed Ensure food is cooked to order where possible or in small batches, avoiding excess wastage ☐ Displaying and holding food at the correct temperatures during service to minimise food spoilage ☐ Sensible portion control based upon the type of clients you are serving ☐ Not over producing too much food for the needs of the customers Minimising plate waste by looking at what food is un-eaten and adjusting the menu accordingly **HACCP Stages Colleague Validation More Information** 1. Describe the main types of food waste and where these are generated from within the kitchen? More information can be found Food receipt & storage 2. What are the 3 main ways to prevent food waste? within the Good Hygiene Food preparation 3. What types of food would be suitable to donate to charity organisations? Practice Guide No: 18 Food Cooking 4. Why could food waste disposal units cause a problem to catering premises? Waste and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No19: Food Incidents & Enforcement

FS.SC.022.02

Key Learning	What You Need To Know	
Dealing with customer food safety complaints is important in order to provide good customer service and investigate and prevent further incidents. Confidently dealing with a food safety enforcement visit will directly	Typical causes of food safety complaints include: ☐ Allegations of Food Poisoning - Where a customer suspects illness from eating unfit or contaminated food ☐ Foreign Body Contamination - The physical contamination of food by a foreign body object ☐ Food Allergen / Intolerance - An allergic reaction or intolerance to a particular type of food consumed ☐ Product Miss-labelling - Where a food item is incorrectly advertised / labelled as something else	
affect the Food Hygiene Rating awarded at the end of the visit	□ Viruses - Where customers have reported food poisoning type symptoms but may be infected with a food bourn illness, e.g. Norovirus Dealing with food safety incidents:	
Food Safety	□ Always take the details of any customer complaint, noting their name, contact information, date, time, accurate details of the food eaten and details of any illness or physical injuries sustained.	(**)
Enforcement Goal Heyers Present Goals for you	Report any customer complaint immediately to the Unit Manager or Head Chef and record all customer complaints on the HSE reporting system (AIR2) to ensure appropriate escalation to the Operational Management team and HSE Manager.	
	☐ Undertake a full investigation of all food safety complaints using the appropriate checklist to ensure the route cause can be determined and prevented in future	
Sharefore for the first to the date of the first to t	 Managing Enforcement Officer visits: □ Environmental Health Officers will visit food businesses either routinely to undertake spot checks and issue a Food Hygiene Rating (FHR) or may also visit following a compliant made by a customer regarding an incident. 	
	□ EHO's will look at 3 main areas to determine the Food Hygiene Rating – Food Safety Procedures / Structure & Cleanliness / Confidence in Management	
HACCP Stages	Colleague Validation	More Information
 Date code & labelling Temperature records Training records 	 Describe the typical causes of food safety complaints made within food premises? List the main things you would need to note down when being informed of a food complaint? How would you report food safety incidents? Who would visit your premises to undertake routine food safety inspections? What are the 3 areas of food safety compliance an EHO would look at to determine your Food Hygiene Rating? 	More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 19 Food Incidents & Enforcement and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No20: Sous Vide

FS.SC.026.01

Key Learning

In sous vide cooking the temperatures used are often much lower than those used for general cooking, and the cooking times much longer, which means that food is in the temperature danger zone for extended periods. As a result, there is an increased risk that food poisoning bacteria can **survive** and **multiply**. Therefore, it is essential that the guidance is followed, and cooking is carried out properly when using sous vide.



What You Need To Know

- □ Sous vide is considered a high-risk activity by the EHO. They will pay particular attention to your process if you use sous vide in your sites.
- ☐ The sous vide GHP 20 must be followed carefully and all associated records to be in place.
- ☐ Senior Kitchen Staff must hold a Level 3 Food Safety certificate or above before embarking on using sous vide in their kitchens.
- ☐ Kitchens must not deviate from the cooking matrix unless specifically given authorisation from the HSE team in writing.
- ☐ Water baths need to be calibrated at least once a year to an accuracy of 0.1'c
- ☐ Water bath front panel LCD temperature display must be calibrated against daily and a correction figure noted if necessary.
- ☐ All items to be cooked must be at room temperature before cooking starts.
- Cooking time only starts when the bath temperature settles to the correct temperature.
- No fish to be cooked sous vide.
- □ No food items being sous vide cooked to be thicker that 5cm or larger than 2kg in weight per bag.





HACCP Stages

- Food preparation
- Cooking

Colleague Validation

- 1. What are the dangers of not following the cooking matrix?
- 2. What factors can affect the length of time in which food cooking takes place?
- 3. How would you best chill sous vide cooked food?
- 4. How would you ensure the water bath is at the correct temperature?
- 5. How long can you store sealed foods once cooled?

More Information

More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 20 Souse Vide and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No21: Natasha's Law

FS.SC.024.02

Key Learning

The Food Information Regulations (Amendments) 2019, also known as Natasha's Law, has been introduced to ensure customers have access to the full ingredient and allergen information for pre-packed foods to allow them to make an **informed choice** before purchase.



What You Need To Know

□ Pre-Packed Foods for Direct Sale (PPDS) includes foods which are made or prepared in the unit from which it is sold, and it is packaged before being offered for sale. It can be either foods the customer select themselves (e.g. from a display unit), as well as products behind the counter or sold at mobile or temporary outlets.

Foods That Require Labelling

Sandwiches and bakery products which are packed in unit before a consumer selects or orders them

Fast food packed before it is ordered, such as a burger under a hot lamp

Products that are pre-packaged on site ready for the lunchtime sale, such as pizzas, pasties, salads and pasta

Foods packaged and then sold elsewhere on the premises at a mobile / temporary site or vending machine by the same food business

Pre-made drinks placed into lidded containers before being ordered by a customer

Foods That Do Not Require Labelling

Traditional Counter Service – e.g. over the counter meal service

Deli Bar / Salad Bar – Any food to go where customer selects from an open food display and it is packaged after section

Pre-ordered Packaged Primary School Meals where parents have selected the meal

Patient / Resident Meal Service – Any form of hospital or care home patient feeding service whereby the food is ordered ahead of consumption

Hospitality – Any form of food ordered by the client for an event or meeting whereby an informed choice is made

Packed Lunches / Picnics / Hampers – Any pre-ordered food whereby an informed choice is made before the food is packaged

Distance Selling – Any foods purchased or pre-ordered via a website or mobile app

Bought In Food – Any packaged foods bought in from a supplier or CPU will already be labelled

Note: Products which are packaged but sold through a pre-order service (schools / patient feeding / hospitality etc) are excluded from legislation as the 'informed choice' has already been made.

☐ There is a wide range of size and type of labels available depending on the product and complexity of the items. Should be labelled, but aren't must be removed from sale until the items can be labelled.









HACCP Stages

- Food preparation
- Cooking

Colleague Validation

- 1. Should a pre-made sandwich that has been wrapped in clingfilm be labelled?
- 2. Does a pie that is in an open take-away tray need to be labelled?
- 3. Does a pre-made juice in a lidded container require labelling?
- 4. What should you do if you notice that a pre-packed item, such as a packaged salad, doesn't have a label?

More Information

More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 21 Natasha's Law and the HSE website

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Food Safety Conversation No22: Food Transportation

FS.SC.027.01

Key Learning	What You Need To Know	
	Typical controls of food transportation include:	1-12-12-1
Poor transportation can put our customers at risk, this will help you	☐ Transport cold food at +8°C or lower (5°C in Ireland)	
reduce the risks around microbiological, chemical and	☐ Transport hot food at +63°C or hotter	
physical contamination, and demonstrate proper temperature	☐ High risk foods served cold which are transported above +8°C (5°C in Ireland) must be used / served within 2 hours	Take Est Avon
controls	☐ High risk foods to be served at ambient temperature which is transported above +8°C (5°C in Ireland) should be held at ambient for a maximum of 2 hours including transit, display and service time	
·	☐ Separate food safe containers must be provided for the transport of raw and ready to eat foods	
Food	☐ Transport all food in suitable containers, covering or wrapping the food and transporting in a clean vehicle.	
Transportation	☐ Ensure allergen records are provided for all transported foods	
100.00	□ Food above +8°C (5°C in Ireland) (for a maximum of 4 hours to be discarded)	
	□ Food below +63°C can be reheated to +75°C (+82°C in Scotland) if not previously reheated	
	☐ At end of service discard any leftover food	
	□ Select one hot food item & one cold item per box/container and record the temperature of the food on dispatch ensuring you capture the temperature and time of dispatch	
Testaline Parallelle Street Steel Street Steel Street Steel Street Steel Street Street Steel Street	☐ On arrival record the time and the temperature of food as appropriate	
	☐ Unit manager to check and sign prior to filing	
	☐ Ensure the daily vehicle safety checks are completed before departure	
HACCP Stages	Colleague Validation	More Information
Food preparationCookingFood Service	 What Temperature are colds food transported What Temperature must hot food be transported at At end of service what happens to left over foods that have been transported How many items must be checked prior to despatch? 	More information can be found within the Good Hygiene Practice Guide No: 22 Food Transportation and the HSE website

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