



ECE Safe Food Handler

This course has been created by me specifically for early childhood education centres (ECE's). It is suitable for those who have opted to register under the template Food Control Plan or are still registered as a National Programme Level 2.

For ECE's that are exempt from registration under the Food Act 2014 and who feel that this course has more information than they need, I recommend, as an alternative, taking my Safe and Suitable Level 1 training course (\$10.00 certificated or Free non-certificated options available)

This course will provide ECE staff and/or volunteers with a comprehensive theoretical training in Food Safety and Suitability and should be more than sufficient to satisfy the requirements of your verifier.

SECTION 1

Introduction for ECE's

ECE Verification "Reality Check"

This is an MPI video of me doing the 'reality check' section of a verification of an ECE
It is an optional lesson and there are no quizzes on the subject matter

SECTION 2

Food Rule Basics

Managing Risks

Following the roll-out internationally of HACCP, New Zealand took steps to implement the same regime to improve our standards of food safety and suitability

Safe Food

The Food Act 2014 requires that all food provided to customers must be safe and suitable
This lesson explains what "Safe Food" is

Suitable Food

The second 'arm' of the main purpose of the Food Act is that food sold must be suitable
Also this lesson covers the legal provisions of food safety and suitability in regard to donated food

Expiry Dates

In my experience I know that many people get confused about expiry dates and that even applies to some food workers
This lesson will make the terms crystal clear

SECTION 3

Food Safety Essentials

Potentially Hazardous Food

In this lesson you will learn about the different keeping qualities (or shelf life) and extra care required of foods that are high risk (potentially hazardous foods)

Food Allergens

In this lesson you will learn how to prevent adverse reaction and illness in those who are susceptible to food allergies

Clean Hands

In this lesson you're going to learn about the importance of having clean hands
Correctly washed and dried hands is important for everyone and is essential for all food handlers

Clean Place

In this lesson you will learn how, and why you need to keep food premises clean

Clean Staff

In this lesson you will learn why being smart and clean and avoiding undesirable habits is important for both food safety and providing customer confidence

Sickness

In this lesson you will learn the importance of preventing anyone who has an infectious disease from contaminating food

SECTION 4

Bad Bugs

Campylobacter

Campylobacter gastroenteritis is one of the most common food-borne illnesses in the world including New Zealand

Raw meats are often source of infection (particularly chicken) so avoiding cross-contamination and cooking raw food safely is essential to avoid any incidence of this disease

Noro Viruses

In this lesson we are going to learn about one of the most common 'tummy bug' infections that can affect any institutional type of place including ECE's

Although not strictly a food poisoning disease the way the virus is spread means that cross-infection involving food can be a significant cause of spreading the disease

Listeria

Listeria is a very common disease and although the vast majority of us would hardly now when we had it, in a few cases it can lead to an extremely severe, dangerous illness

The relevance for ECE's is that it has most chance of severe illness in very young children and particularly unborn babies during pregnancy.

SECTION 5

Taking Control

HACCP

HACCP (pronounced "hassep") is the internationally used method to manage food safety risks This lesson gives you the background to what it is and how it is used today in NZ food businesses

When Things Go Wrong!

It is almost inevitable that something will go wrong

Checking critical food safety steps, writing these down and reacting swiftly when there's a stuff up is a key element to producing safe and suitable food and avoiding possible catastrophes!

Importance of Keeping Records

Keeping records are a legal requirement for any registered food business under the Food Act 2014 Keeping good records can be a business lifesaver and you will be really thankful you have them when they are really needed

SECTION 6

Conclusion

Take Home Message

Here you are at the finish line!

Well done – you deserve it

See how to complete the course to get your well-earned certificate of achievement.