

INTRODUCTION



HOW DOES THIS DIARY WORK?

The diary is specially designed to help you run your business effectively. This diary should be used alongside the safe methods information contained within the previous sections of this toolkit. It contains:

- week-to-view diary pages
- checks to do every day when you open and close
- 4-weekly review
- staff training record
- suppliers' list
- cleaning schedule

The manager should sign the diary every day to say that:

- the opening and closing checks have been done
- your safe methods have been followed

The diary should take about **one minute a day** to complete, unless you have something special to write down.

If anything **different** happens, or if something goes **wrong**, you should make a note in the diary of what happened and what you did. This is so you can show that you have taken action to make sure that food is safe to eat.

If the manager is not in, he or she can give responsibility for the diary to another member of staff. See the 'Training and supervision' safe method in the Management section.

4-WEEKLY REVIEW

The 4-weekly review gives you the opportunity to look back at previous weeks and identify any persistent problems. Write down details of these and how you decide to tackle them. You might need to train staff again on certain safe methods and/or change how you do things.

You may find it useful to read the 4-weekly review before starting to use the diary. It will give you an idea of the kind of things you might need to write down during the week.

OPENING AND CLOSING CHECKS

It is essential that you and your staff do certain checks every time you open and close. Make sure you have worked through the 'Opening and closing checks' safe method in the Management section.

You might find it helpful, on a daily basis, to use the list of opening and closing checks in this diary (see next page).



OPENING CHECKS

You should do these checks at the beginning of the day. You can also add your own checks to the list.

Your fridges, chilled display equipment and freezers are working properly.

Your other equipment (e.g. oven) is working properly.

Staff are fit for work and wearing clean work clothes.

Food preparation areas are clean and disinfected (work surfaces, equipment, utensils, etc.).

All areas are free from evidence of pest activity.

There are plenty of handwashing and cleaning materials (soap, paper towels, sanitiser, etc.).

Hot running water is available at all sinks and hand wash basins.

Probe thermometer is working and probe wipes are available.

Allergen information is accurate for all items on sale.

Has cleaning been carried out according to the cleaning schedule

CLOSING CHECKS

You should do these checks at the end of the day. You can also add your own checks to the list.

All food is covered, labelled and put in the fridge/freezer (where appropriate).

Food on its Use By date has been thrown away.

Dirty cleaning equipment has been cleaned or thrown away.

Waste has been removed and new bags put into the bins.

Food preparation areas are clean and disinfected (work surfaces, equipment, utensils etc.).

All washing up has been finished.

Floors are swept and clean.

'Prove it' checks have been recorded.

Has cleaning been carried out according to the cleaning schedule

EXTRA CHECKS

Extra checks are less frequent than the opening and closing checks. See the 'Extra checks' safe method in the Management section. There is a box at the end of each week in the diary pages for you to fill in any extra checks you have done.