

Food prices are high, but incomes have not kept up with the cost of living.

What does this mean for young people and their families?



Information about the study

What is the research about?

We are living in difficult economic times. In many countries in Europe, incomes have not kept up with the cost of living, creating major challenges for many families to feed their children. This is why research is needed and why policymakers need to know the realities of people's lives.

Through our research we are learning about food and eating in the lives of young people aged 11-15 years and their families in three countries: the UK, Portugal and Norway. The study is funded from 2014 - 2019.

Who is carrying out the study?

The research is funded by the European Research Council. It is being carried out by the Thomas Coram Research Unit (TCRU), UCL Institute of Education. TCRU is independent of any government departments and political parties and carries out a wide range of research projects with a focus on families, children and food.



If I have any other questions?

We hope this leaflet answers the questions you may have. Further information is available on the study website:

www.foodinhardtimes.org

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the researchers listed below.

Thomas Coram Research Unit (TCRU)

UCL Institute of Education, 27/28 Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AA

Dr Rebecca O'Connell

Tel: 020 7612 6458;

email: r.oconnell@ioe.ac.uk

Dr Abigail Knight

Tel: 020 7612 6957; email: a.knight@ioe.ac.uk

Thank you

What does the research involve?

The research includes:

- A survey of parents with at least one child aged 11-15 years
- Interviews with some young people and their parents
- Interviews with professionals and practitioners in the study areas

We are also carrying out statistical analysis of European and national data to look at the bigger picture.

What happens to the information you collect?

Any information we collect is confidential. This means it will not be attributed personally to research participants and will be kept anonymous.

All researchers have Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS, previously CRB) checks and carry out their work with regard to the Institute of Education's (IOE's) Safeguarding Procedures: Children and Vulnerable Adults.

What will you do with the study findings?

We want to inform the work of Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), policymakers and practitioners. To do this, findings are being presented at events such as conferences, and published in journals, books, websites and other places including the popular press and the newsletters of NGOs and other interested organisations.