FOOD HYGIENE · LEVEL 1

Keep food safe at home

Four simple steps stop most food poisoning.

Clean Hands
Food safety in your language

1 CLEAN

Wash hands 20 seconds

- Use soap and warm water.
- Before cooking. After raw meat, the toilet, bins and pets.
- Keep worktops and boards clean.

Why? Germs on hands and surfaces get onto food and make people ill.

2 COOK

Steaming hot all the way

- Cook food until it is steaming hot in the middle.
- Chicken, pork, burgers and sausages: no pink inside.
- Reheat food only once.

Why? Heat kills harmful germs such as salmonella, E. coli and campylobacter.

3 CHILL

Fridge 5°C or colder

- Put leftovers in the fridge within 2 hours.
- Eat leftovers within 2 days.
- Defrost food in the fridge, not on the side.

Why? Cold slows germs down. Food left out in a warm room lets them grow fast.

4 KEEP APART

Raw meat at the bottom

- Cover raw meat. Keep it on the bottom shelf of the fridge.
- Use a different board and knife for raw meat.
- Don't wash raw chicken. Splashes spread germs.

Why? Germs from raw meat can spread to food that won't be cooked again.

USE BY — **This is about safety.** Don't eat food after this date, even if it looks and smells fine.

BEST BEFORE — **This is about quality.** Food is still safe after this date if it has been stored well.