

Food and Drink purchased 'Through the School Gate'

Principal Investigator: Professor Wendy Wills, University of Hertfordshire

Tel: 01707 286380 Email: w.j.wills@herts.ac.uk

Transcript

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Interviewer: So we are here today to hear your thoughts and opinions and your experiences about food and drink that you eat at school, at home, before school, after school, at lunchtime and at break time.

So the first thing we're going to talk about is your school food environment, so what do you think of your school canteen?

Respondent1: Good.

Interviewer: Yeah, good?

Respondent1: Yeah.

Interviewer: What do you like about it?

Respondent1: It's always clean and you get good food usually, like the rice is very good and but some of the fruit [inaudible 0:00:41] are quite good...

Interviewer: So they don't sell much fruit which you would like more of?

Respondent1: Yeah. Because they open at 5 o'clock, sometimes they don't have a load of fruit, I don't think that's good enough.

Interviewer: Okay. What do you think?

Respondent2: I think the food at our school is quite good but because there is a variety of food that has got food like sandwiches, that's all you want, and you get the same things each day. Like I think [inaudible 0:01:10] for like three weeks and you get the same each day, it kind of becomes similar to you [inaudible 0:01:14].

Interviewer: Okay, so you want a bit more variety?

Respondent2: Yeah.

Interviewer: How about you?

Respondent3: I think the food is good quality.

Interviewer: Yeah, nice good quality. Is it similar to the kind of things that you eat at home?

Respondent3: Yeah.

Interviewer: How about you?

Respondent4: I think it's too expensive. I think it's too expensive. Because sometimes they don't stick to their prices, I think that's a really bad thing. So sometimes like even do pasta they say it's one serving and they're kind of like one scoop or something which I don't mind, but then afterwards when I like do their fingerprint they say it's like £2.64 or something, I'm like 'What? That's just too much.' You can go to Tesco's and buy three sandwiches.

Interviewer: Is there a fixed price for meals or is it the prices they change every day?

Respondent3: Yeah, I think it changes, and they don't do vegetable options.

Respondent4: Also I think their drinks are quite expensive because like normally like in just any shop for a bottle of water it would be like 50p, but in the school it's nearly £1, so I think like that's a bit unfair.

Interviewer: Do they sell other things than water? Can you have other things?

Respondent4: Yeah, you can, they have like apple juice and different like fizzy drinks and stuff.

Interviewer: And are they expensive as well?

Respondent4: Yeah.

Respondent5: Because like you know the apple juice, like the apple juice, the box carton, I went to Costco and I found like the whole box for £3 and they ask...and the drink in the school, yeah, is 60p. It's 60p, and then you can only buy four bottle and in the whole box you can buy like 20. [inaudible 0:01:14]. So I think...so it's kind of a...it's a bargain but they're like tricking us.

Respondent6: I think there's sort of like too many sugary drinks, like the fizzy drinks and all that, I think they should have more like healthier drinks.

Interviewer: What kind of healthier drinks would you like?

Respondent6: Like water or flavoured water.

Interviewer: Okay.

Respondent6: Yeah.

Interviewer: We'll go one more on this point and then we'll like kind of move on.

Respondent5: I disagree with him because they have a lot of like watery drink, like squash, but like it just doesn't say squash but it tastes like it and if you check on the back it says like it has a lot of water, like 60%.

Interviewer: And your actual canteen itself, what do you think of it? Are there enough seats?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Respondent: You have to stand around.

Interviewer: You have to stand around do you?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: So do you sometimes end up with your food and then you have nowhere to sit with your food?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Standing with things looking round.

Interviewer: Does that happen most days?

Respondent6: I think that it depends what time you go to eat your lunch. If you go straight away it will be busy but I normally go at 1 o'clock so then it's not packed or...

Interviewer: A bit more space. Is there often what you want...? Is there often enough food left at that time, do you get to eat what you want?

Respondent6: No, not really. All sandwiches are gone. The only thing that is left is like hot food or like stuff that you don't really eat.

Respondent: Or like cakes.

Interviewer: So do most of you eat your lunch, do you buy lunch from the canteen?

All: Yes.

Interviewer: And do you have hot or cold food?

Respondent: Cold.

Respondent: Cold.

Respondent: Both.

Interviewer: Okay let's go hands up if you have hot food? Okay, so most of you.
And then who has cold food? And does anyone bring a packed lunch in?

Respondent5: Me.

Interviewer: Yeah? Every day you bring a packed lunch in?

Respondent5: Yeah, I switch it up, I buy hot food on Monday and then I buy cold food on Tuesday and then I bring a packed lunch on Wednesday.

Interviewer: Okay, so you have quite a lot of variety?

Respondent5: Yeah. And also when you are walking in the canteen there's like a TV and they show you what you are about to eat in there, but it's wrong.

Interviewer: Yeah, we noticed that when we came last time.

Respondent5: Yeah.

Interviewer: We had some lunch and I was like 'Ooh, that looks really nice' and then it wasn't there.

Respondent5: Yeah, and it wasn't there and then I was like 'Woah!' I didn't know what was going on so that was awkward.

Interviewer: So that's something you'd quite like to see changed is it, if they would actually put what's actually for lunch up on the board?

Respondent5: Yeah, and a little bit of picture so you know what you're buying.

Interviewer: Okay, yeah.

Respondent: I used to have hot food but then I stopped having it because basically I used to see...you know when you line up there's obviously like little [inaudible 0:02:48] and things and you can see most of the [inaudible 0:05:33] are like ripped and like somebody had already put their hand in or something...

Respondent: Really?

Respondent: Yeah, for real. And some drinks are already opened and then after they close it again and stuff like that. [inaudible 0:05:43].

Respondent: Also they don't have like much variety in view. Because like most...like what is on the board that says they have different stuff, but most of the time they just serve chicken and rice. And then there was this one day where we had like...like I don't know when it was but hardly anything was on there, and that was quite nice to have like a different variety.

Interviewer: So you'd like something a bit more different? So you have chicken and rice a lot, but you'd like something else?

Respondent5: Traditional.

Respondent6: Sometimes when they have the fish it's a bit cold. You get cold fish.

Interviewer: That's not ideal.

Respondent6: Cold cod.

Respondent: Coming back to the menu, I don't think they've made that menu...they've made it up just for visitors to be honest, because on the dessert section it always is like banana tart or something like that or custard or whatever. It's like a lot of the time...quite a lot of the time it makes us like...we can't really see what's going on, like what...we can't really see, even if the menu is wrong, if you want to be...oh let's just go and check, just see, the teachers won't let us. And they also have like barriers, I don't really like the barriers, they restrict us from a lot of stuff. And for example if you've got your lunch

and you go all the way to the end table it takes you quite a while just to come to the middle, put your plate away and come because it will be really crowded. A lot of people are sort of like this, and you come here like, you can't do it and it's really annoying.

Respondent: Also about the barriers, like say you wanted to like...you had already eaten or something and you wanted to go and sit with your friend, you're not allowed in like if you haven't got lunch. So like say all your friends are sitting down you wouldn't be allowed to just walk in and like sit with them.

Interviewer: Can you sit in...? If you've got a packed lunch can you take a packed lunch in or do you have to sit somewhere else?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: But you've got to go the whole way round.

Interviewer: You've got to go the whole way round, so you have to queue do you?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: So when you all...when you eat in the canteen you have to eat in the canteen and on the stairs, is that right?

Respondent: Mm-hm.

Respondent6: Or there's like a little...you know in like the cold section, there's like an area there that some people sit.

Interviewer: And so do you normally try and sit in the same place with the same people every day?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Same people but not the same place, because everyone [overspeaking 0:07:51].

Interviewer: Just depends where there is space, okay.

Respondent6: If people eat packed lunch, yeah, you're not going to sit with your friends even if you wanted to, because there's packed lunch section and then there's like people who have bought the canteen food section. So if all your friends are eating school food and you're eating packed lunch you can't go sit with them, you have to sit in the packed lunch section.

Interviewer: Okay. So that's up on the stairs isn't it? Is that the packed lunch section?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: So you can't take hot food onto there, is that right?

Respondent: No.

Respondent5: And you know when you want to buy cold food, because there's like two lines and then it gets really packed, but you can't go to the cold food.

Interviewer: How come? You can't get in can you?

Respondent5: Yeah, there's like a door and then it's unnecessary, like you will open a door and like the hallway where there's two lines to go eat like, I don't think that's a smart thing to do.

Interviewer: So how would you like to make it better?

Respondent5: Next to the toilet, put a door next to the toilet, so it's easier to go in.

Respondent6: Like it's not good because there's two lines, yeah, and we are all queueing up for hot food and then you're going to have to tell everyone to make way just so you can go to the door to get to the cold food. So it's like everyone is going to be packed and you're going to have to be pushing everyone to get through, so that's why the door is not convenient.

Interviewer: So do you think if you had the cold food somewhere else it might be a bit easier?

Respondent6: Yeah.

Respondent5: Outside because it's cold.

Interviewer: But then you've got to queue up outside in the rain.

Respondent5: No, but there's a shelter, see that.

Interviewer: So we've talked a little bit about the cost of the food here and some of you think it's not good value and it's quite expensive. Some of the questions in the questionnaire yesterday were about free school meals and I know a lot of you had quite good answers about what you thought about the free school meal system. So what do you think of it? Do you think it's a good idea, a bad idea? Do you think everyone should be able to have a free school meal? Do you think no one should have a free school meal?

Respondent: No.

Interviewer: Okay, so hands up.

Respondent: Good idea.

Respondent6: So I think not everyone should be entitled to a free school meal if you don't need it because like without like the money that we give, that we pay for the food how is the school going to pay to cook more food. But like if you can't afford it then you can have a free school meal.

Respondent5: They should make a thing, yeah, on Friday, like free school Friday, free meal Friday.

Interviewer: So that everyone gets a free school meal on Friday?

Respondent5: Yeah, like Mr Williams, he's like minus a hundred and like [overspeaking 0:10:23] I think he needs that.

Interviewer: Let's all listen in, let's all listen in.

Respondent: Basically I've got a couple of things to say. First of all about free school meals I think it's quite good the way it is now, because if everyone gets it the school is not going to profit, but if no one gets it,

people can't afford it obviously can't get it, and I think that's why only people who have like circumstances should get free school meals.

But I was going to say something, there's a thing yeah, when you overload on your account you go minus obviously, so minus £1, minus £2, and the maximum you can go is minus £3 before you can get food again [inaudible 0:11:04]. But you see teachers, it's okay because like Mr Williams he gets like minus £100, minus £25 and he's still allowed to eat whereas kids only go like minus £2 and you're not allowed to eat, so I think it would be fair for everyone.

Interviewer: So if you do go minus and you're not allowed to eat what happens? Do they take your food away from you?

Respondent: Basically they take your food away when you try to buy it.

Interviewer: So you can't...

Respondent: You can't get lunch. Go without lunch.

Interviewer: Is that something that you think is a bit unfair? Do you think that you should be able to go a bit more minus? Do you get a warning before you go down?

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Interviewer: So perhaps a warning on the thing to say 'Oh, you need to top up' probably?

Respondent: Yeah, like to say...like an e-mail to say like 'Oh...' or you only have £5 left in your account, like you might have to top up soon.

Respondent: I think they should send it to our parents because our parents are the ones that actually do it. So it will send them like a message to say your child is minus that or it will remind them before you [inaudible 0:12:00].

Interviewer: Yeah, and then they top up for you.

Respondent: Yeah, telling them, yeah.

Respondent: Yeah, as well as the staff like they take your food away, I'm not sure if that has changed but basically if you do have minus and they take it, like last year they said that we could just get a slip. But I remember this year I had minus and I asked if I should go and get a slip and they said that I couldn't.

Interviewer: So then you couldn't get any lunch?

Respondent: Yeah. And then I was sort of not allowed to buy lunch but you can't pay there.

Interviewer: You can't bring money with you and pay when you [overspeaking 0:12:32]?

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Respondent: I usually bring money to school, obviously go to chicken shop afterwards.

Interviewer: We'll talk about that in a minute.

Respondent: I think if you are on minus [inaudible 0:12:47] you should be allowed to get food and then once you have enough money they should take it off that to pay for the food you got.

Respondent: I've got two things to say. I know it's about the negative money and yesterday I didn't top up because my parents were really busy and I had 35p left and yesterday I didn't have...there wasn't any vegetarian options and I kind of like vegetarian options, but there wasn't any there, they just had like sweetcorn and stuff, so I got chicken and rice and I went to the card to put my finger on it, they were like 'You have to put it back', and I'm like 'Can I at least get a drink because it's 35p, 50p?' And she said 'No, no, you can't get anything', and I'm like 'Okay', and I was kind of like sad and then [inaudible 0:13:35] and my friend paid for [inaudible 0:13:38] and I kind of feel bad for that. And

also about our school meals, free school meals, I said this last time, I said a really long paragraph, I want to try and like subsidise it a bit. I think it's kind of embarrassing to be honest because the school only pays £10 a week and because of the expenses of the school meals it's like £2.49, so if you think about it for five days it's £2 every day and just because of the dish it's like £2. So you can't get a drink or a cake or anything like that. So I heard once when I went to the queue someone was free school meals and it was kind of obvious they were because the dinner ladies are kind of loud. So they're like 'You can't get the thing, you can't get the food', and then the person was like [inaudible 0:14:23] 'Oh, I'm free school meals' really silently, but the dinner lady was like 'Just because you're free school meals doesn't mean you can like get a lot of food', and I felt like that person must be really embarrassed because you never know what their situation is. We were all like staring at each other, kind of like it's a bit awkward.

Interviewer: The free school meals, you need to...perhaps they should pay for a meal rather than give you a certain amount of money, so it would mean you could get hot food and a drink and a pudding all in one, like you think that would be better?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: Two more points and then we'll move on.

Respondent: I know this isn't really to do with free school meals, but I'm just saying that like normally the vegetarian options aren't that good or they don't have any vegetarian options. So normally if you're vegetarian like pretty much the only thing you can get is a baked potato or a

sandwich, but like you don't necessarily want to get the same thing every single day. I know like on the proper meal side they normally just have like vegetables which I feel like is a bit of...or pasta and they just [inaudible 0:15:31].

Interviewer: So they need to have more variety for people that don't want to eat meat?

Respondent: Yeah, or like they don't have that many servings.

Respondent: This year when you are on minus, like say you are on minus 20p and you want to buy a drink, they wouldn't allow you even though you are on minus 20p. Like it's really annoying because you can still buy it, like last time, last year you could still buy a drink if you had like minus 20p, but this time they wouldn't let you at all.

Interviewer: Okay, so that's something that if you got a warning or something sent home to your parents would make it a bit more easy?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: So we've kind of talked about what's on the next slide, about what we think of the food and drinks available in the school, so you've said there's not great vegetarian options and after three weeks you start having the same things again.

So what kind of foods would you like them to serve at school?

Respondent: Sushi.

Interviewer: You'd like sushi? Yeah. Anything else?

Respondent: Salads.

Interviewer: Yeah, more salads?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: Would we like more variety of hot foods?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: So different things, rather than just having a three-week cycle you'd like a longer cycle or something?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Steak.

Respondent: I know that they do have the food recycled because we pretty much just have the same thing every day and it doesn't really change really. [inaudible 0:16:52].

Interviewer: So those of you that have hot meals, which I think was most of you, do you get the same thing every day?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: Is that because there's not much variety or because that's what you like to eat?

Respondent: Not much variety.

Interviewer: So you've said you'd like more variety. So we know that you want more vegetarian options, that would be good. What else would you like? What hot meals would you like to see if you had the chance?

Respondent5: McDonald's.

Interviewer: McDonald's. Okay, not ever going to do that.

Respondent: I don't know, you know like they do these burgers but then like I think they're like handmade burgers and if they do some kind of meat it's like this or this or whatever. Like the ones like that are big and the meat is this big.

Respondent: Oh, that's annoying.

Respondent: They need to improve the burgers first of all. So I think they have to improve a lot of stuff before I'd eat again.

I think if they're going to do a food timetable you have two weeks for week A and week B, so they should do like different foods on each day and they could be like week A or B. And on Fridays they always do fish and chips, that's like the only thing [inaudible 0:18:00].

Interviewer: And do you all eat that fish and chips on a Friday?

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No. Sometimes I don't bother to eat. The chips are soggy.

Respondent: I was just thinking there was this one time we had like a Caribbean meal or something and if we had like one of those, like a meal from a different country every month that would be [inaudible 0:18:19].

Respondent5: Traditional.

Interviewer: Do you get the opportunity to feed some of this stuff back to your teachers? Do they ever ask you what you like?

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Respondent: They used to [inaudible 0:18:29].

Respondent: I was going to say, like you know burgers, they are usually just like fish burgers, there's no other type of burgers and, yeah, that's a problem. We have chicken wraps and meat wraps, okay, but most of the wraps they hardly have any chicken or meat inside, it's only like two little pieces or three little pieces and then it's just salad and tomatoes. So I think they need to put a bit more chicken in [inaudible 0:18:55].

Respondent: [inaudible 0:18:59] the international food, I think that would be quite good because like quite a lot of people I think at home would only have food from their country normally and wouldn't really like have that sort of experience of having different food. So I think that would be quite a good thing to do, to like give people the opportunity to try foods, like [inaudible 0:19:23] foods.

Respondent5: So [inaudible 0:19:28] I was walking past the canteen, I was ordering my food and then like the big chef, the bald guy, that guy and then there was another person and I asked...they were making like fish fingers and I asked if...she just put salt and pepper on it and she goes 'That's seasoning', and like I didn't think that was normal to season the fish like that. So I think they want to improve the seasoning.

Interviewer: Okay, so the actual flavour of the food you would like...?

Respondent5: Yeah. And the chicken it tastes like water.

Respondent: Like you see with all the chicken wraps and the burgers like sometimes they are usually dry and you have to buy like the mayonnaise and ketchup to...

Interviewer: You have to pay extra for ketchup?

Respondent: Yeah. Like because last time I bought a chicken wrap it was really dry and you have to pay like 5p for the mayonnaise.

Respondent: I paid 50p for it last time.

Interviewer: Okay, so we're going to kind of move on to the next bit because I'm just aware that we are getting a bit short on time.

Respondent: I've just thought of one...

Interviewer: Is it really important?

Respondent: Sort of, yeah.

Interviewer: Okay, go on then.

Respondent: When you get for 20p for one ketchup, it's like that small ketchup, and it's not like the ones you get in takeaway shops where it can last you like quite a while. Only like three or four chips and that ketchup has gone, so you go buy like three pieces of [inaudible 0:20:41] for eight weeks.

Interviewer: Oh it's expensive.

We've kind of touched on this a little bit. Who actually brings money to school with them? Yeah, so quite a lot of you do. And you've already said that you can't actually pay for your food with cash, what do you bring the money for? Is that to buy food outside of school?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: I buy what I want when I leave school.

Interviewer: So with this money that you bring with you who buys food before school?

Respondent5: Me.

Interviewer: Yeah? What sort of things do you buy before school?

Respondent: I usually just buy crisps.

Interviewer: Crisps. And where do you get them from? The little newsagent on the corner or the Co-op or...?

Respondent: I go to the newsagent.

Respondent: There's that orange chocolate, even get wine gums or something.

Interviewer: And then those of you that don't buy food before school do you buy food after school?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: And where do you go?

Respondent: Del's.

Interviewer: Del's chicken shop, that's the one that is just across the road isn't it?

Respondent: Yeah, Del's chicken shop, yeah.

Respondent: Me and my friend [inaudible 0:21:45] basically we walk into school and most of the time we always go to Brenda's Fish Bar and we get chips.

Interviewer: Is that the one next to Del's chicken, yeah?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No, it's like the other side.

Interviewer: Okay, so it's not that close to school. How far away from school as it?

Respondent: Two minutes, four minutes. It's near the park right at the front of the school.

Interviewer: It's on the way home? So lots of you by hot food after school, so you buy chicken and chips.

Respondent: I buy some hot...I buy some...

Respondent: Well I like buy stuff or my friends buy stuff after school. We normally just like go to corner shops and stuff and that like...so we eat some crisps or like just a snack to eat on our way home from school. Like we wouldn't really have like a proper meal, like hot food.

Respondent: Sometimes I buy like [inaudible 0:22:41], or it's like once a month, like sometimes cookies or something, [inaudible 0:22:44].

Respondent5: Every day I go down the shop and I buy a salad.

Interviewer: On the way home?

Respondent5: [inaudible 0:22:58] I buy like salad and sometimes I buy like the salad and rice with a little bit of tuna, because it's good for you. Like you've always got to think about what you're eating and like...

Interviewer: And do you take that home with you or eat it on the way home?

Respondent5: Take it home and eat it at the same time, like when you are walking home and you're eating salad, but then the drink I get is like the healthy Innocent drink.

Interviewer: Okay, the smoothies.

Respondent5: Yeah, and it's good for you, because you've got to read on the back what you're eating, because you've always got to check.

Interviewer: That's good.

Respondent: Like a couple of weeks ago me and my friends were walking, one of my friends...do you know Ceasar's? Ceasar's, like there's a restaurant called Ceasar's and he usually go in there to buy like some massive chick...like food, like because like in school he doesn't really eat because like the food is not really good.

Interviewer: So lots of you do by food after school and is that because you don't eat much in school or because you are hungry by the time school is finished?

Respondent: Hungry.

Respondent: Hungry.

Interviewer: You're hungry? So what is better about the food?

Respondent: The service.

Respondent: The oil.

Interviewer: So the service, the oil. What were you going to say?

Respondent: I was going to say that there's more variety. I know there's more variety, one shop, you can go to multiple shops and get different stuff, whereas school obviously doesn't have the variety. And like everyone likes junk food so...

Interviewer: So what about the quality of food? So if you go to the chicken and chip shop do you think that's better quality food than you get at school?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: And what about the price?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Cheap.

Respondent: You can get three wings and chips for £1 whereas for £1 here you can just get a drink.

Respondent: I want to point out one thing, and I asked the guy and I had an argument about it as well, but I actually went to go outside for lunch. I mean people can eat in the canteen if they want but sometimes I want to be allowed to be like in the area we are in, because there's like a lot of corner shops and maybe you could buy food outside. Although the teachers might argue that some people might bunk off or something, might not have come, but I wish like we can go outside and find a way to go outside.

Respondent: And there is a way.

Respondent: [overspeaking 0:25:11] they can give you a pass.

Respondent: That's longer, I mean come on guys.

Respondent: You have to go home though.

Respondent: Yeah, you have to go home, like you can't [overspeaking 0:25:20].

Respondent5: Or you can just jump over the gate.

Interviewer: They're pretty high gates, they look like they'd be pretty tricky to get out of.

Respondent: I think we need to be allowed to go out of school as well because then people can relax and eat, it's not too noisy, because in the canteen it's too noisy and you have to like kind of shout to speak to your friends. Whereas if you went to the park or something and ate food [inaudible 0:25:45] it would be a lot more better.

Interviewer: So lots of you would like if you could leave school at lunchtime to go and buy different things?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: If you could leave school at lunchtime do you think you would still buy food on the way home as well?

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Interviewer: How come? Do you think you would be fuller? Do you think you would be more full if you...?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Because Mrs [inaudible 0:26:02] eats everything twice in a day.

Respondent: Yeah, I also think like to ban people from bunking off and doing [inaudible 0:26:11] they should have a restriction, so you can only go like around a certain area to get lunch and then, yeah... Also what happens with my friends at school is that they have like a tuckshop in school which sells like the sort of stuff you would get at a corner shop, so like if people wanted to get that sort of stuff at lunch it was like in school so teachers don't have to worry about you going outside of school to get that sort of food.

Respondent: Also it would be better because you're getting food that you want instead of food that you're just being served, because there could be food in the...like we go to get the lunch and we don't really like what's there, whereas if you go outside of school there's like a variety of stuff.

Interviewer: There's more choice?

Respondent: Yeah, because there's loads of shops around so you could get what you want.

Respondent: No one is going to agree with me but maybe there could be like a teacher just out there watching over you.

Interviewer: Yeah, so you can still have the freedom to go outside and get what you want but the teachers are there to make sure that you're not bunking off.

Respondent: It's not even about trusting you ain't going to bunk off, because every other school that I know you get to go out at lunch and go and there's no teacher watching over, it's your choice and obviously if you bunk off they will call your mum and you get in trouble and a meeting and stuff. But it's not even about trust, it's about the fact that the school want to make profit from their own food, like obviously everyone wants to make a profit, but like they want to limit people, because people at this school still they go home to eat their lunch, like in year eight as well, but they want to limit that because they want people to eat at school rather than outside.

Respondent: So you know like people are allowed to eat outside of school, most people want to walk out, and then like let's say, yeah, like there's like weird people like know that you are out of school, lots of kids walking out, it will be an easier target for [inaudible 0:28:04].

Respondent5: Paedophiles.

Interviewer: I think that is one of the reasons that lots of schools do keep students in at lunchtime is from a safety perspective, so that's probably why your school [overspeaking 0:28:15].

Respondent: But even when we're not in school we are out all the time, we don't get raped or something.

Interviewer: Well that's good.

So you would all like to go out at lunchtime because there is a variety of shops and they do a variety of different foods. So are you happy with the kind of food outlets that you have around school, are you happy with what's on offer?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: Are there any shops that you think 'Oh I wish we had one of those round the corner'?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: KFC.

Respondent: Nando's.

Interviewer: KFC and Nando's. So if you had a Nando's...

Respondent: Pizza Hut.

Interviewer: So if you had a Nando's would you go there after school?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Every day.

Interviewer: Every day. You just said you don't want to eat the same thing every day.

Respondent: Yeah, but listen, Nando's has a lot of things.

Respondent5: Yeah, I'll just eat the salad.

Respondent: If you go for Nando's, I wouldn't go there like you say, because it takes so long for it to [inaudible 0:29:03] and by the time it comes lunchtime is going to be over and then you're going to have to go back to school.

Interviewer: So you're happy with what you've got outside of school. There are some things that you think it would be really nice if we had one of those.

Respondent5: I wish they had a flower shop.

Interviewer: A flower shop?

Respondent5: I like flowers.

Interviewer: I think if you go down to the market they've got flowers there haven't they?

So with these shops that you've got around school does what you buy before school and after school kind of influence what you eat in school or what does you eat in school influence what you eat after school? So if for example on a Monday they do something you really like in the canteen, would you still buy chicken and chips or chips after school?

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No, I wouldn't.

Respondent: If it sells better food.

Respondent: Unless we are hungry.

Respondent: The main reason we go to chicken and chips shops and stuff is because we don't like the food that we get in here or it's too pricey or something like that. And if there is food that we like and we enjoy our food as well we're probably not going to go eat outside, but there's not really food here that we really like that well, so that's why we go [inaudible 0:30:29].

Interviewer: And is that true for a lot of you? You think if you didn't like the food in school you probably wouldn't eat outside?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: [inaudible 0:30:37] and then by the time everyone gets it there will be none left, and then if you are after you can't get it. That's why people buy...

Interviewer: Yeah, okay.

Respondent: [inaudible 0:30:53] we won't go over to like the chicken and chip shop if like they're not better quality. The school does everything they do outside, so it's a bit like...I [inaudible 0:31:03] said something, but they don't do good seasoning [inaudible 0:31:04].

Respondent5: They put sugar on it.

Interviewer: So the flavour of the food as well as the quality. So the flavour, the quality and the price are things that influence you to want to eat food outside of school rather than inside? Okay.

Respondent5: Like you know [inaudible 0:31:27], they don't like do...the school do any offers, I think they should include offers.

Interviewer: So you'd like it if at school they did like a buy one get one free or a two for this pack.

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: Everyone is going to buy one anyway so you're just going to get one for free.

Respondent5: Yeah, but like I mean they should do the offers.

Interviewer: And then do you think you probably might eat less after school?

Respondent5: Yeah, and then all the people go to the canteen, but it's stupid, and then they make money, so they should...

Interviewer: So you think offers like they do in the shops would be good?

Respondent5: Yeah, because it's kind of more basic.

Respondent: This is like not really [inaudible 0:32:04] but I just think as well they should have more like selection of like...because like the things they have like ketchup and mayonnaise, it doesn't really go with the food they serve. So like if you have like rice or like pasta you wouldn't really put mayonnaise or ketchup on it.

Respondent5: I put ketchup on my rice.

Respondent: I feel like for that sort of thing they should have more of a variety [overspeaking 0:32:27].

Interviewer: So more dressings.

Respondent: At break time we get like...you have like [inaudible 0:32:38] eat, so you've got pizza bread and like bacon rolls, cheese or something like that, but I want like a [inaudible 0:32:44], like a kind of machine that has like little snacks and...

Interviewer: Like a vending machine?

Respondent: You know if you go to like a leisure centre it's always there. And I want one of those, because you know how some people always have pocket money and like if you're really hungry you can buy little snack bars or something.

Respondent: A vending machine.

Respondent: Yeah that's it.

Respondent: Adding onto what she said you could still add like a finger scanner onto that so it comes out of your account.

Interviewer: Okay, so do you always buy something at lunchtime or because there's so much choice after school do you sometimes think I'm not going to have lunch today, I'm going to wait after, or do you always buy something at lunchtime?

Respondent: Yeah, buy something at lunchtime.

Interviewer: Always buy something at lunchtime?

Respondent: Buy something every day.

Interviewer: Okay. Yeah?

Respondent: When it comes to lunchtime you've already waited like a couple of hours so you're not going to say 'Oh I'm not going to eat that', [inaudible 0:33:35].

Respondent: Just eat the bad fish.

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: I think we've already talked about this but the price really affects what you buy in and out of school, so because the price of food outside of school is so good that's why you buy food out of school?

Respondent: Yeah...and race.

Interviewer: So do you think if the food in school stayed the same but was a lower price, would that make you happier? Would it make you eat more at lunchtime or...?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: No.

Respondent5: [inaudible 0:34:12] every like four months they make the price go up by 10p.

Interviewer: For a whole meal it goes up does it?

Respondent5: Yeah, I've done the research. Like it used to be £1.50 but now within like six months and now it's £2.50.

Interviewer: So that's quite a big increase. So you can get things outside of school for much less than that can't you?

Respondent5: Mm-hm.

Interviewer: So lots of you talked about things that you eat after school, before school and during school. What do you think your families would think of the food and drink that you have after school? Do you tell who you live with at home what you eat after school?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: No.

Interviewer: Those of you who have said no why don't you?

Respondent: It doesn't matter.

Interviewer: It doesn't matter?

Respondent: If they ask me [inaudible 0:34:59].

Respondent5: So one time yeah, this always happens, when I buy a drink, yeah, and I have the bottle and after somehow, yeah, I like put it in my pocket and then sometimes they go through my bag.

Interviewer: What, it leaks in your bag?

Respondent5: No, it just comes in my bag, the bottle, but if I put it in the bin then automatically it will go in my bag and then [overspeaking 0:35:19].

Interviewer: So you do try and hide it from your mum because you don't want her to know what you've been drinking?

Respondent5: No, I don't try and hide it, I just put it in the bin and oddly somehow it just comes in my bag and then when my mum checks my bag she just sees the bottle and it's like weird.

Interviewer: Okay, so we're talking here about why we wouldn't tell our parents what we... One at a time.

Respondent: I don't think it really matters about what I eat, all my mum really cares is if I do eat, so all I have to do is go home and say 'Mum, I have eaten for lunch', [inaudible 0:35:52], I don't really have to say why.

Interviewer: So they don't ask what you ate? Okay.

Respondent: When I buy something after school I usually tell my mum because sometimes I don't really eat at school and she doesn't really mind what I eat after school.

Interviewer: Okay, so she doesn't mind?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: It's not like your parents don't care about what you eat or care about what you're eating, it's just when your parents give you money to go eat something they know you're going to eat something outside. You don't need to tell them 'Oh I'm going to eat something outside', [inaudible 0:36:19].

Interviewer: Okay. So one more, and then we'll go...

Respondent5: Yeah, sometimes people, yeah, they just eat all day at home and like dinnertime instead of like eating at school, but it's like a long wait.

Like sometimes I feel like any of the food that the school serves, I just go home and eat chapatti.

Interviewer: So is what you have for lunch or on the way home from school the same as the foods that you usually eat at dinnertime? Or do you eat different foods at home?

Respondent: No.

Respondent: I eat different food.

Interviewer: Yeah?

Respondent: I eat chapatti.

Respondent: [inaudible 0:36:54].

Interviewer: So the food at home is more tasty is it?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: Boys at the back. We've got five more minutes, so we're doing really well, let's just try and keep the noise down and listen to what everyone else has to say.

Respondent: I think the food is like cheap, like not like the price, but I think it's like not good quality, the food.

Interviewer: That they do at school?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: You think it's poor quality?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: So the food that you get outside of school is better quality?

Respondent: Yeah.

Interviewer: Okay. So do you think you would like to change that? Do you think if they gave better quality meat and better quality food at school that would make you happier?

Respondent: Yeah. Because it's probably like cheaper meat and they sell it for like more. Because like yesterday I think it was I bought a cake which was really small for like £1.50 and I was like 'Wow! Really?'

Interviewer: Whereas then you can go out to the shop after the school can't you get the same thing for half the price?

Okay, so does your family give you advice about what and where to eat?

Respondent: Yes.

Respondent: Yes.

Interviewer: Who was the first person that shouted out yes then?

Respondent5: Me, me.

Interviewer: It wasn't you, it was the person over here. What kind of advice do you get given? Does your family give you advice about what and where to eat?

Respondent: They think that sometimes like chicken shop food, like junk, and there's too much oil in it and it's like it can make you [inaudible 0:38:39].

Interviewer: So they suggest to you that you don't eat there do they?

Respondent: Yes. [inaudible 0:38:47].

Respondent5: Like my parents told me yesterday only eat the things that...you have two per day, with the 100 calories, only those.

Interviewer: So you should only have those snacks that are 100 calories?

Respondent5: Yeah, because like you are only meant to have two a day, that means you are on the right path and then you will survive for longer and you can get cancer.

Interviewer: Okay, so you get advice about making healthy choices?

Respondent5: Yeah.

Interviewer: And talking about healthy choices do you think the food at school is healthy?

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Respondent5: It's healthy, it always tastes like water.

Interviewer: Do you think the food outside of school is healthy?

Respondent: No.

Respondent: No.

Respondent5: Yeah, it is healthy [inaudible 0:39:30].

Interviewer: So some of you said yes you do think the food in school is healthy, some of you said no you think it isn't healthy. Would you like there to be more healthy choices?

Respondent: Yeah.

Respondent: If they're tasty.

Interviewer: If they're tasty. So taste is quite important?

Respondent5: Yeah, MasterChef.

Interviewer: You'd like MasterChef to come and cook?

Respondent5: Yeah. Not MasterChef. You know like there are foods, yeah, like [inaudible 0:39:54], you know when you see it on the TV, yeah, like all the chefs who eat on the TV [inaudible 0:40:00].

Interviewer: So you want the food to be visually appealing as well? You want it to look nice as well?

Respondent5: Yeah. Like the appearance has to be good.

Interviewer: That's actually everything for us today unless anyone has got anything else to say. I think we've got five minutes until the bell goes. So I'm going to press stop on here and thank you all very much...

END OF AUDIO