

Supplementary information – tables 1 - 3

Acceptance of Low-Carbon School Meals with and without Information – a Controlled Intervention Study

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Supplementary table 1 Description of included schools

Group	School	Urban / rural	Grades ^a	Pupils, total	Pupils, grades 4 – 9 ^b	Foreign background ^c	Parents’ education level ^d
Control	Genarps skola	Rural	1 - 9	303	303	21%	69%
	Tunaskolan	Urban	0 - 9	694	465	27%	92%
	Total			997	768		
Menu	Hubertusgården	Urban	0 - 6	209	86	32%	80%
	Nyvångskolan	Rural	0 - 9	857	662	17%	78%
	Total			1066	748		
Menu+Info	Gunnesboskolan	Urban	0 - 9	636	438	30%	78%
	Prästängskolan	Rural	4 - 6	164	164	9%	94%
	Total			800	602		

Notes. ^aGrade 0 denotes preschool class (compulsory). ^bPupils in grades 4 – 9 took part in the survey. ^cPupils born abroad or with both parents born abroad. ^dPupils with at least one parent with post-secondary education. Statistics from Swedish National Agency for Education (2023).

Supplementary table 2 Descriptive statistics for survey respondents

Group	Matched survey responses ^a	Grade ^b	Frequency of eating meat and vegetarian ^c								Importance of climate for food choice ^d
			Meat, school		Meat, home		Vegetarian, school		Vegetarian, home		
			Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Control	140	7.8 (7 – 9)	3.82	1.17	4.13	0.97	3.10	1.22	3.41	1.19	3.19
Menu	268	6.9 (4 – 9)	3.41	1.28	3.93	1.09	3.00	1.21	3.20	1.27	3.12
Menu+Info	245	6.1 (4 – 9)	3.64	1.20	3.91	1.10	3.12	1.21	3.32	1.29	3.10

Notes. ^aNumber of responses for which the respondent could be matched across baseline and intervention. ^bMean grade for matched respondents.

^cHow often the respondent eats meat and vegetarian food at school and at home, on a scale from 1 (never) to 5 (very often). Responses from the baseline survey. ^dHow important it is for the respondent that the food they eat has a low climate impact, on a scale from 1 (not important at all) to 5 (very important). Responses from the baseline survey.

Supplementary table 3 Descriptive statistics for weight measurements by group and period

Group	Baseline period				Intervention period				Change
	Mean	SD	95% CI	N ^a	Mean	SD	95% CI	N ^a	Mean
Food Taken									
Control	324.8	66.1	308 – 342	58	349.6	65.7	334 – 366	66	+24.9
Menu	298.4	73.2	281 – 316	66	300.6	67.7	284 – 318	61	+2.3
Menu+Info	337.9	87.8	315 – 360	59	319.5	80.1	300 – 340	62	-18.4
Plate Waste									
Control	25.0	7.3	23 – 27	52	24.1	6.2	22 – 26	54	-0.9
Menu	21.9	6.6	20 – 24	52	24.1	8.7	22 – 27	50	+2.2
Menu+Info	17.7	7.2	16 – 20	55	22.3	21.8	16 – 28	50	+4.6
Food Eaten									
Control	297.1	61.8	279 – 315	46	320.1	70.6	301 – 339	54	+23.0
Menu	274.0	74.5	254 – 295	51	280.6	68.7	261 – 300	47	+6.5
Menu+Info	314.7	80.3	292– 338	47	289.5	74.6	268 – 311	48	-25.2
Food Prepared									
Control	381.7	67.9	364 – 399	58	411.1	74.1	393 – 429	66	+29.5
Menu	347.0	66.8	331 – 363	66	343.5	60.4	328 – 359	61	-3.5
Menu+Info	375.1	77.8	355 – 395	60	357.3	75.4	338 – 376	62	-17.9
Serving Waste									
Control	42.6	27.8	36 – 49	66	43.9	36.1	35 – 53	66	+1.3
Menu	32.6	18.9	28 – 37	67	30.0	16.0	26 – 34	66	-2.6
Menu+Info	19.6	14.5	16 – 23	67	21.8	19.4	17 – 27	64	+2.2
Food Saved									
Control ^b	14.8	20.4	10 – 20	66	17.6	22.7	12 – 23	66	+2.7
Menu	15.9	22.9	10 – 21	66	13.1	18.9	8 – 18	61	-2.9
Menu+Info	18.1	21.0	13 – 23	65	16.1	21.1	11 – 21	64	-2.0

Notes. The unit is gram food per pupil and day.

^a The number of observations days varies due to missing data. The primary reasons for missing data were errors in measurements or that no measurements were made on certain days for practical reasons. Also, all days with soup were excluded from Plate Waste since soup waste is poured down the drain, rather than being collected and weighed. Furthermore, one new dish in the low-carbon menu was baked potatoes, which yielded a high plate waste due to

peelings (in Sweden it is common to eat baked potatoes by scooping them out with a small spoon, often leaving a portion of the flesh adhered to the peel); thus, these four observations were excluded from the plate waste analysis.

^bData including imputed values for one school in the Control Group, as described in Variables and Data Collection.