

Oakwater Laboratories



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10451-4/NLDC

28th April 2026

Dear Sirs,

I acknowledge the receipt on 20th April 2026 of four specimens of water, submitted to this laboratory as representative samples of the mains water from Stowford Community Centre, Chambers Close, Sidmouth, EX10 9YL.

I have caused the required examinations to be carried out with the results shown below:-

Specimen Marked	Total viable count of bacteria		Residual chlorine (mg/litre)
	@ 22°C (per ml)	@ 37°C (per ml)	
Main Kitchen, Hot	> 10,000 **	448 *	< 0.01
Main Kitchen, Cold	16	2	0.07
Childrens Kitchen, Hot	2644 *	104 *	< 0.01
Childrens Kitchen, Cold	4032 *	928 *	< 0.01

* Result is higher than is normally regarded as desirable.

** Result is higher than is normally regarded as acceptable.

Total viable counts of the organisms present in the water are carried out at 22°C and 37°C. Since 37°C is the normal body temperature of mammals, the count of bacteria at this temperature gives an indication of the number of organisms likely to be of mammalian origin which would be able to survive and grow within the human body and the count at 22°C indicates the number of environmental organisms which would not necessarily survive at body temperature. High total counts of bacteria at either temperature are undesirable because Legionella organisms can thrive in water containing large numbers of other bacteria. However, the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 do not prescribe limits for total counts of bacteria, only that there should be "no abnormal change". Normally, it would be expected that a mains water would contain total counts of less than 100 per ml and ideally, less than 10 per ml.

I shall be pleased to answer any questions arising from this report, if desired.

Yours faithfully,

Nigel Cauchois