Dear (MSP)

I am writing to you as a young person to ask for your commitment and support to expand universal free school meals to all young people in Scotland.

I fully support the STUC Women’s Committee ‘Food for Thought’ Campaign and the Scottish Youth Parliaments ‘Right to Food’ report which is calling upon the Scottish Government to expand the provision of universal school meals to all.

Scotland has made some great progress on school meal policy and has committed to expanding this provision to primary pupils.

But hunger, and the poverty-related stigma and shame that has long been associated with free school meals in our schools knows no age-boundaries.

The Scottish Government aspires to significantly reduce child poverty; to become a Good Food Nation; and be a world leader in Children’s Rights and upholding the UNCRC in practice.

Expanding universal free school meals provision to all young people attending publicly funded schools in Scotland will help to make real our rights, mitigate poverty, reduce poverty related bullying, support all young people’s nutrition and help meet our right to food.

A nutritious school meal should be part of our school day and accessible to all young people at every school stage.

Will you commit to making our rights real by expanding universal free school meals to all young people attending publicly funded school in Scotland?

I look forward to hearing from you.

(Name – young person)