<Date>

Dear <Principal> and Board of Trustees

I understand that the Ministry of Education has advocated that schools remove sugary drinks from their premises. I strongly support our school adopting a policy that would ban sugary drinks from our premises and any school events, and would like to know what progress is being made on this directive.

The health of our children is paramount and I believe that we should be supporting them to make good nutritional decisions. Selling or allowing the consumption of sugary drinks at school directly contradicts the nutritional messages they are getting in class.

Sugary drinks are leading cause of tooth decay in New Zealand and they significantly contribute to childhood obesity and Type 2 diabetes. I believe we owe it to our kids to model a healthy environment at school.

Besides having no nutritional value, sugary drinks displace healthier beverage options.  Sugary drinks are cheap, readily available and accessible, and are one of the most widely advertised products, particularly to children and adolescents.

I would support the school adopting a water and milk only policy and I have included the draft policy from the Ministry of Education Website.

Could you please inform me what the next steps to implementing a sweet drink free policy at our school would be?

Kind Regards,