

Dear CEO of UNICEF,

Hello, my name is Gavin McCormack, and I'm in Year 8. There's something deeply troubling me that I really need to share. It's about the clean water and sanitation crisis affecting children around the world, a critical issue that touches my heart every day. This topic may not be new to everyone, but to me, it's a pressing call to action, a matter of life and quality of life that cannot wait.

In our lessons on the Sustainable Development Goals, SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation - resonated with me profoundly. It opened my eyes to the harsh realities faced by countless children who lack access to something as basic and essential as clean water. The stories of kids missing out on education because they have to fetch water, often contaminated, from miles away, struck a chord with me. I couldn't just stand by and not do something.

One particular story that hit home was about a young girl named Amina, who, every morning before dawn, sets out on a long walk to collect water instead of going to school. The thought of her, and millions like her, sacrificing education for water is unbearable. This is wrong on so many levels. Every child deserves a fair chance at education and a healthy life, which starts with access to clean water and proper sanitation.

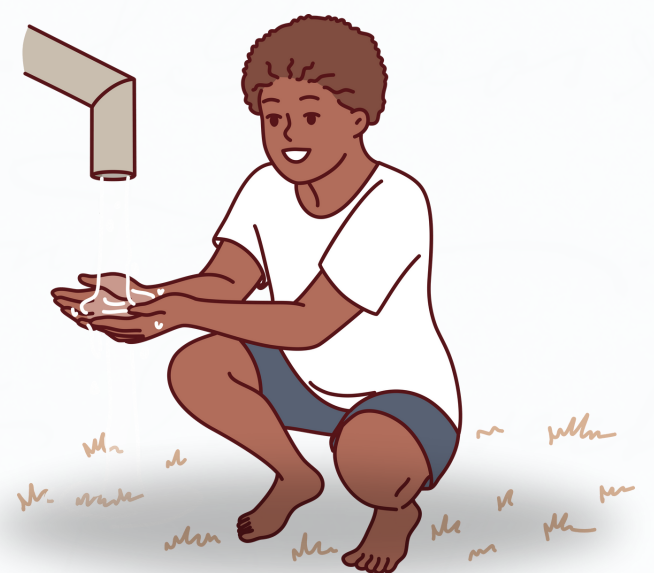
I am writing to you because I believe in the power of UNICEF to make monumental changes in these children's lives. The thought that my letter could contribute to bringing attention and action to this crisis gives me hope. I know that the journey to universal clean water and sanitation is challenging and complex, but I also know that every effort counts and can lead to significant improvements.

Could you please share what actions UNICEF is currently undertaking to address this critical issue? Knowing that there are ongoing efforts to ensure that every child has access to clean water and sanitation would not only give me hope but also inspire me to advocate for this cause even more.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my letter. Your response would mean the world to me and to all the children who dream of a brighter, healthier future.

With hope and respect,

Gavin McCormack



Ten Tips to Write a Letter That Tells a Story

Start with Your Emotions: Reflect on how the topic makes you feel. Are you excited? Angry? Worried? Inspired? Your emotions are the heart of your letter, so let them guide your writing from the start.

Share a Personal Experience: If you or someone you know has a story that connects to the topic, share it. Personal experiences can make your letter more compelling and easier for the reader to connect with.

Pose Questions: Pretend you're having a conversation with the recipient. What questions would you ask them? Including questions can make your letter more engaging and encourage the reader to think deeply about the issue.

Keep Language Simple: While elaborate words might seem impressive, clarity and simplicity often have a stronger impact. Write as though you're talking to a friend, using language that's easy to understand.

Create Vivid Imagery: Use descriptive language to help the reader visualize your thoughts and feelings. For instance, if you're describing a problem, paint a picture of how it affects you or your community.

Be Genuinely Honest: It's important to express your true thoughts and opinions. Authenticity resonates with readers and shows that you deeply care about the issue at hand.

Dream Out Loud: Share your vision for the future. How do you hope the issue will be resolved? Ending your letter with your dreams can leave the reader feeling inspired and hopeful.

Review with a Clear Mind: Once you've written your letter, take a short break before revisiting it. This allows you to see your writing from a new perspective, making it easier to improve clarity and emotional impact.

Seek Constructive Criticism: Show your letter to someone whose opinion you trust. Feedback can provide valuable insights on how to enhance your message and make your letter even more effective.

Believe in Your Influence: Always remember that your age doesn't define the significance of your voice. Your unique perspective, ideas, and enthusiasm have the potential to inspire change and make a meaningful difference.