



Advocacy letter for school file

Hello everyone,

My name is _____ and I am a parent of _____ who is now ____ years old .

As you can see in your documents, ____ is diagnosed with _____.

Before I start explaining ____ challenges and needs caused by ____ diagnosis, let me tell you first how wonderful ____ is using my documents! These documents are attached. Let me tell you about _____ abilities.

At this time I will use a strengths-based approach, applying the 'F-words' for Child Development. These are grounded in the World Health Organization's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (the ICF). The 'F-words' for Child Development are described in a published paper written by *CanChild's* Drs. Rosenbaum and Gorter, titled: "The 'F-words' in Childhood Disability: I swear this is how we should think!" These six F-words, that the authors state should be the focus in all discussions about childhood disability, are: *Functioning, Family, Fitness, Fun, Friends, and Future*.

Here are some documents that will help me highlight _____ abilities :

- **The F-Words Agreement** – This is a document that represents an informal but serious pact between _____ and whoever ____ relies on for support.
- **The F-Words Collage** – This is a collage that provides a snap shot of my child. I would love to tell you why these pictures are meaningful. Please ask me.
- **The F-Words Profile** – This document can tell you a lot about _____ and ____ favorite things.
- **The F-Words Goal sheet** – These are our goals for school. Please help us try to organize _____ day so we can achieve them.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about _____ and what is important to ____ and to our family.

Sincerely,