

# Improve Your Child's Handwriting with Handwriting Assessments and Occupational Therapy Intervention

An occupational therapist can help improve your child's handwriting skills by implementing a handwriting assessment and providing specialised intervention. Receiving a handwriting assessment and intervention from a licensed occupational therapist advances your child's gross motor skills, sensory processing, body awareness, and tactile skills.

Handwriting is a [fine motor skill](#) that begins at birth. It is a complex skill developed over time based on your child's environment and educational demands.

Here's how an occupational therapist can improve your child's handwriting to support them in school.

## What is a Handwriting Assessment?

Handwriting assessments provide goals for your child's therapist to use during the intervention. The therapist observes your child's medical history, environmental factors, educational demands, and current handwriting capabilities.

What considerations are made when assessing your child's handwriting?

- **Organisation of a Writing Sample:** How does your child use lines, letters, sizing, and spacing?
- **Pencil/Pen Grip:** How does your child handle the device based on pressure, tension, positioning, and fluency of movement?
- **Handwriting Speed:** Is your child performing within the normal limits compared to their peers based on accuracy and speed?
- **Classroom Observations:** What does your child's workspace look like? Is their behaviour appropriate? How does their school work look on paper?
- **Quality of the Material:** How does your child write from memory during dictation or composition?

Your child may require a handwriting assessment and intervention if they have pre-existing medical conditions, limb injuries, learning or language deficits, visual issues, or fine motor delays.

## How Can an Occupational Therapist Improve Your Child's Handwriting?

By making skilled observations during your child's assessment, the occupational therapist provides strategies that address [your child's capacity to learn](#) and communicate in the classroom.

Here are some handwriting skills your occupational therapist can employ:

- **Prompts:** These are both visual and verbal prompts addressing your child's pen or pencil grip. They also focus on line spacing and letter formation.
- **Slope Boards and Grips:** These can be used to improve the pen or pencil grip. This skill will also improve your child's body posture.
- **Paper Templates and Guides:** These can be used to provide ongoing writing practice and can even be used at home.

- **Fine Motor Skills Activities:** These can help to improve your child's dexterity and hand function.
- **Technology:** Apps on devices such as tablets or phones can make writing practice exciting and fun!
- **Practising with Modified Devices:** Modified devices such as special pens and/or pencils can improve your child's grip and hand control. These devices are also great for dexterity as their hands continue to grow.

## How Can Improved Handwriting Help Your School-Aged Child?

Occupational therapists work on improving underlying [pre-handwriting fine motor skills](#). They aim to help your child shift from simple scribble to actually writing their name at an early age.

These skills furthermore enhance your child's overall participation in all aspects of their educational activities.

Here are a few skills that your child can improve in school with occupational therapy intervention:

- Hand-Eye Coordination
- Sensory Processing
- Visual Perception Skills
- Attention/Organisation
- Posture

When a child's handwriting is addressed at an earlier stage in life, they can enjoy classroom activities and learning with less hesitation.

## Allay Occupational Therapy Offers Handwriting Assessments with Occupational Therapy

Allay Occupational Therapy has therapists who can provide handwriting assessments and intervention therapy for your child. Our occupational therapists provide a range of paediatric services in early childhood intervention.

Our goal is to provide your child with a positive therapeutic environment, whether they have a health or disability diagnosis or just difficulty with everyday activities.

Your child is unique and special in their own way. Our team of therapists at Allay Occupational Therapy will spend time learning about your child's abilities and apply the best intervention to cultivate their handwriting skills.

***[Contact us today](#) to schedule your child's handwriting assessment and learn more about our occupational therapy services.***

### **Meta Information**

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