

This is how GriffinOT's [Write Rules handwriting programme](#) can help your school meet the transcription expectations in the writing framework.

### Audit: Writing in Reception

Reference for audit: [the writing framework](#) pages 28-29 (11 Jul 2025 version)

Writing in reception	How Write Rules meets the guidance
Leaders make sure that every child is supported to reach the expected level of development in the early learning goal for Writing by the end of the reception year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The subscription includes staff training on gross and fine motor skill and handwriting development.</li> <li>The Write Rules scheme of work provides a systematic sequential approach to teaching handwriting.</li> </ul>
Plans are put in place to support all children who do not meet the expected level of development in Writing by the end of reception to access and meet the expectations of the year 1 curriculum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write Rules content be used as whole class, in small groups and with individual children</li> <li>Write Rules is a two-year scheme of work, so continues to reinforce good habits learnt in reception into year one.</li> <li>The Write Rules songs give clear movement focused rules that children can use to remember how to write their letters correctly in reception – essentially learning to Write correctly right from the start</li> </ul>
A clearly defined curriculum extends children's language and vocabulary in each of the Early Years Foundation Stage areas of learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Write Rules practice worksheets incorporate recommended vocabulary from the EYFS and KS1 curriculum.</li> </ul>
Explicit handwriting instruction, in addition to phonics, begins early in reception for all children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write Rules is a two-year scheme of work designed to teach handwriting transcription correctly.</li> <li>The Write songs provide explicit instruction for reception and year 1 students.</li> <li>The letter stories can be used to reinforce this.</li> </ul>
Children are taught transcription skills and practise them. They should practise what they have been taught through dictation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teachers and teaching assistants can use the Write Rules prompts in all lessons to support correct letter formations.</li> </ul>

Writing in reception	How Write Rules meets the guidance
Teachers focus on developing the quality of children's writing (letter formation and spelling) and not the length. Children are not expected to write extended pieces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Write Rules scheme of work supports teachers to focus on correct letter formations with their students in a fun and engaging way through song.</li> </ul>
Children are taught to practise oral composition. They compose sentences orally and say out loud what they want to write.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write Rules prompts can be used to support children when they are transcribing their letters during composition.</li> <li>The prompts make it easier for children to remember how to transcribe.</li> </ul>
Children are supported to hold their pencil comfortably for writing through a range of activities that develop fine and gross motor skills and strength, in addition to handwriting instruction and practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Write Rules weeks include fine and gross motor warm-ups.</li> <li>Included with Write Rules are extra ideas to support development of posture and fine motor skills for children who need extra help.</li> <li>Our song Crocodile Snap explicitly teaches children how to hold their pencil.</li> </ul>
Teachers systematically pass on information about children's knowledge gaps to year 1 staff as part of transition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write Rules is a two-year scheme of work, so it can be used in year 1 to continue to reinforce the rules allowing for a smooth transition</li> </ul>

The other benefit of joining Write Rules is that it's part of the GriffinOT membership, this means your staff can access all our content, including the sensory training and monthly Ask Kim for OT advice sessions.

You can learn more, [purchase or join the free Write Rules trial here](#). Pricing starts from £30/year (N.B. Price is correct as of July 25, please check the website for the current cost).

Written by Kim Griffin, occupational therapist, GriffinOT 13 Jul 2025

## Audit: Handwriting

Reference for audit: [the writing framework](#) pages 37-38 (11 Jul 2025 version)

Handwriting Routines	How Write Rules meets the guidance
Handwriting is taught explicitly and regularly across the school to all pupils. This begins early in reception and is in addition to writing in phonics lessons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write Rules is a full 2 year scheme of work that is specifically written for reception and year 1 students</li> <li>• It includes all lesson plans and content</li> <li>• There are fine and gross motor skill videos for the children to watch</li> <li>• Songs to reinforce letter family writing patterns</li> <li>• Training for teachers to support their knowledge of motor skills and handwriting.</li> <li>• Advice for joined writing will be added in the 25-26 year</li> </ul>
Pupils across the school are taught consistent routines for handwriting that support a comfortable writing position and enable them to form letters legibly and to develop fluency. Routines consider posture, paper positioning and pencil hold (including for left-handed pupils).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write Rules begins with structured activities to support children to know how to hold their pencil – including</li> <li>• Advice for paper position and supporting other skills is included in the teacher training</li> <li>• There are further ideas for developing posture in the gross motor section</li> </ul>
All adults who work with pupils expect consistently high standards of handwriting and provide good models of handwriting that align with the school's agreed style, across all areas of the curriculum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The staff training can support all staff to understand good handwriting practices</li> </ul>
Handwriting instruction focuses on letter formation, size, orientation, spacing and consistency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write Rules covers each of these components</li> <li>• It includes instructional videos for the children too</li> </ul>
Teachers make sure all pupils in every year group regularly practise handwriting to develop physical skill and control, and maintain fluency and legibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The scheme of work focusses on supporting reception and Year 1 children in the first instance</li> <li>• Write Rules can be used with small groups of children in the older years to support additional needs</li> <li>• The songs and advice can be used with all year groups to reinforce the rules</li> <li>• Older students can practice these skills during lessons</li> </ul>

Teachers teach pupils how to hold the pencil using the tripod grip, and support and encourage them to use it when they write.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The training will help teachers to understand how this develops and appropriate alternatives (e.g. modified tripod and quadruped)</li> <li>• The training supports teachers to understand how pencil grasps can support this (when it can and how to choose a grasp)</li> <li>• The song Crocodile Snap reinforces the tripod grasp with the children</li> </ul>
Pupils who need support have access to appropriate resources and equipment to enable them to make progress in handwriting in line with their peers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The training helps teachers to understand when these resources might be needed.</li> </ul>
Teachers routinely model handwriting in the writing lesson to enable pupils to see how letters are formed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write Rules gives teachers easy to remember prompts they can use when doing this.</li> </ul>
Teachers seek advice and work with the SENCO and other adults to support pupils needing adaptations or further support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write Rules is included with the full GriffinOT membership. There are monthly sessions where teachers and SENCOs can ask specialist advice from an OT for these pupils too</li> </ul>

You can learn more, [purchase or join the free Write Rules trial here](#). Pricing starts from £30/year (N.B. Price is correct as of July 25, please check the website for the current cost).

Written by Kim Griffin, occupational therapist, GriffinOT 17 Jul 2025

## Audit: Handwriting progression

Reference for audit: [the writing framework](#) page 39 (11 Jul 2025 version)

Handwriting progression	How Write Rules meets the guidance
A consistent, school-wide approach to handwriting that follows a clearly sequenced progression and supports the gradual acquisition of skills is embedded across every year group. Once print handwriting is mastered, handwriting instruction encourages speed, legibility and consistency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write Rules gives all teacher clear prompts and guidance that they can use with all children</li> <li>There is a clear progression with printed letters and prompts for teaching cursive.</li> </ul>
Teachers begin teaching letter formation at the start of reception for all pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Write Rules scheme of work provides weekly lessons to support this.</li> </ul>
Joined handwriting is not taught until pupils have mastered print handwriting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kim has always advocated for this approach.</li> <li>Write Rules is teaches printing first.</li> <li>The training helps teachers to understand why this is important.</li> </ul>
Teachers monitor pupils' progress in handwriting and take action to support those who are not progressing in line with their peers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The weekly and termly goals in the scheme of work can be used by teacher to monitor progress.</li> <li>Write Rules can be used in small groups to support students who need extra help.</li> </ul>
Pupils who struggle with handwriting and/or are at risk of falling behind are identified early on and are taught and practise the knowledge they are missing. Teachers focus on these pupils during the handwriting lesson and provide individual support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write Rules can be used in small groups or with individuals to support students who need extra help.</li> <li>It gives teaching assistants a clear programme and prompting to use, so that these sessions are consistent with the whole class teaching.</li> </ul>
Teachers focus on the pupils who need the most support as they practise handwriting during the handwriting lesson. They observe them as they write and provide feedback and support, preventing them from practising letter formation incorrectly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The weekly and termly goals help teachers to monitor progress.</li> <li>The Write Rules prompts provide teachers with clear language to offer feedback to students.</li> </ul>

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