

## **Alternative Pencils Making Writing Accessible for All Learners**

**Training by the Assistive Technology & Communication Unit, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2025**



**Ms. Luana Antonella Abela**

**Occupational Therapist, Access to Communication and Technology Unit (ACTU)**

Ms Luana Antonella Abela have graduated in B.Sc in Occupational Therapy in 2023. During her studies at the University of Malta, she also carried out a student internship at ACTU, where she observed the benefits of using AAC and assistive technology to access and support occupations. She has been working as an Occupational Therapist at ACTU for the past few months, where she has gained further knowledge and experience in supporting persons with disabilities to live a fulfilling life.



**Ms. Sharon Borg Schembri**

**Senior Occupational Therapist, Access to Communication and Technology Unit (ACTU)**

Sharon is a Senior Occupational Therapist, with over 19 years of experience supporting inclusive education through AAC and assistive technology. In 2010 she obtained a Master's degree in Inclusive Education and Communities from the University of Malta. She played a key role in establishing Malta's national assistive technology service and works closely with educators and families to promote access to literacy, including the use of alternative pencils. Sharon has collaborated with international organisations such as UNICEF and Erasmus+, and she regularly shares her expertise at global conferences including AAATE, ISAAC, and Accessible Europe.