Handwriting Instruction Checklist

*Use this checklist to affirm what you’re already doing well and to uncover new ideas to tune up handwriting instruction.*

- [ ] Students spend 75-100 minutes/week on handwriting instruction (grades 1-4).
- [ ] Instruction is direct and explicit, with opportunities for guided practice.
- [ ] Letters with common strokes are taught together.
- [ ] Consistent, clear language is used to describe how to form the letters.
- [ ] Visual cues, like numbered arrows, are used to show how to form letters.
- [ ] Students use their memory to practice copying and writing letters.
- [ ] Students hold pencils correctly, position their papers correctly, and sit upright.
- [ ] Special attention is paid to the difficult letters (q, j, z, u, n, and k).
- [ ] Students write connected text frequently.
- [ ] Additional handwriting instruction is provided as necessary.
- [ ] Students’ handwriting is monitored.
- [ ] Older students are allowed to develop their own style.

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