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Psychological Research in Individuals with Exceptional Needs

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Impact of Peer-Mediated Instructional Strategies within Inclusive Education Settings

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

"The concept of inclusive education is grounded in the principle of providing all students with the opportunity to participate fully in the educational process." - Please provide specific examples or case studies to illustrate the principle of inclusive education.

"The study included a total of 22 educators." - Clarify how the final number of participants (22) was determined and discuss any instances where potential participants were excluded and why.

"The Results of Thematic Analysis" - Ensure the table has clear, consistent formatting, and consider adding a brief narrative summary to explain the most critical themes and subthemes identified.

"One teacher remarked, 'The workshops provided us with the necessary skills to engage students effectively." - Include more direct quotes from participants to enrich the qualitative data and provide deeper insights into the themes.

"This aligns with Sharma et al. (2018) who emphasized that inadequate teacher training is a major barrier." - Discuss the implications of this alignment and suggest specific strategies or programs that could address this training gap.

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"Collaborative planning was another critical strategy identified by participants." - Explore how different types of collaborative planning (e.g., interdisciplinary, cross-grade) can be implemented effectively in schools.

"Thirdly, ongoing professional development should be emphasized." - Provide examples of effective professional development programs or frameworks that can serve as models for ongoing teacher training.

"Administrative support is crucial for the success of inclusive education." - Elaborate on how school leadership can be trained or sensitized to better support inclusive education practices.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

"Research indicates that peer-mediated strategies can significantly enhance the learning experience for students with autism and other disabilities." - Include citations of recent studies (post-2020) that support this claim to ensure the literature review is current.

"Despite the benefits, several barriers hinder the effective implementation of inclusive education." - Suggest breaking down this paragraph into a list format to clearly highlight each barrier mentioned (teacher training, resources, administrative support, etc.).

"Participants are selected using purposive sampling to ensure a diverse representation." - Provide more detail on the demographics of the participants (e.g., geographical location, socioeconomic background) to give a clearer picture of the sample diversity.

"The interview guide is developed based on existing literature on peer-mediated instructional strategies." - Include an appendix with the interview guide questions to allow readers to understand the scope and direction of the interviews conducted.

"Initial codes are generated by systematically working through the transcripts." - Describe the software or tools used for coding the qualitative data to enhance the transparency and reproducibility of the analysis.

"Resource availability emerged as a significant factor." - Propose practical solutions or funding strategies that schools can use to overcome resource limitations, possibly citing successful models from other regions.

"The challenges identified in our study such as time constraints and diverse student needs reflect ongoing issues." - Provide more detailed recommendations on how educators can manage these challenges practically, including time management strategies and differentiated instruction techniques.

"Administrative support was also a critical factor influencing the success of inclusive education." - Suggest specific policies or administrative practices that can bolster support for inclusive education initiatives.

"Future research should aim to address these limitations by expanding the sample size." - Recommend specific methods for expanding the sample size and diversifying the participant pool in future studies.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.

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