

PRIVACY IN SPECIAL AND INCLUSIVE EDUCATION RESEARCH

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Abstract: *Protecting the privacy of students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SENDS) is critical, given the potential for stigmatization and discrimination. This study examines privacy protection measures in research on special and inclusive education in the region. Drawing on a systematic literature review of 53 studies published between 1995 and 2023, this paper explores the documented procedures for protecting participants' privacy. It highlights the challenge of research in small Caribbean communities. While a significant proportion of the literature addresses confidentiality, many studies lack specific details on privacy protection procedures, indicating a need for greater transparency. Examples from the literature illustrate how researchers navigate conducting studies in small societies and methods used for privacy protection. Recommendations include enhancing methodological transparency, integrating ethical considerations into research reporting, and including clauses related to privacy protection in Special and Inclusive Educational policies throughout the region.*

Keywords: *special education, inclusive education, privacy, confidentiality, Caribbean*

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