

Reliability testing of the Inclusive Schools Checklist

Reliability testing of the Inclusive Schools Checklist was performed to determine whether it conveyed the same meaning to all individuals using it and whether there was consistency between repeated testing. Three independent raters from 37 schools used the checklist, resulting in a total sample of 111 participant ratings. The inter-rater reliability coefficients included the ratings between: the principal and Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT), the principal and student, the SERT and student, and a combined score for principal, SERT and student. The mean scores for percentage of agreement were: a) 91.6 % for principal and SERT; b) 87.9% for principal-student; and, c) 87.4 % for SERT and student. The combined interclass correlation was .94. Since all reliability coefficients exceeded 85 %, the Inclusive Schools Checklist was considered a reliable measurement tool (McDowell & Newall, 1987 ¹).

¹ McDowell, I., & Newall, C. (1987). *Measuring health: A guide to rating scales and questionnaires*. New York: Oxford University Press.