



British Autism Study of Infant Siblings (BASIS) Frequently Asked Questions

Q What is BASIS?

The **British Autism Study of Infant Siblings (BASIS)** is a collaborative research network for studying the development of brothers and sisters of children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Our co-ordinating centre is based at The Centre for Brain and Cognitive Development in the Department of Psychology at Birkbeck, University of London. Currently, collaborating centres include the Institute of Child Health, Institute of Psychiatry, Cambridge University, Oxford University, and University of Manchester.

Q Who funds the study and who approves it?

The NHS London Research Ethics Committee granted ethical approval for the study. The study is funded by the UK Medical Research Council and a consortium of charities led by Autism Speaks.

Q I would like to find out more about travel arrangements.

We will always cover your travel expenses when you come to visit our research centres. Depending on where you live, a taxi service may be provided. Otherwise, we will reimburse any expenses directly related to the visit.

Q Can I bring my other children to the research centre?

You are more than welcome to bring other siblings, including your child with autism. We have space for them to play and can arrange for someone to sit with them whilst you and your baby spend a few minutes in another room doing the study. However, we do ask that you let us know in advance if you are bringing anyone else, so that we can make the necessary arrangements. We are also pleased to provide reimbursement for childcare costs if you prefer not to bring your older children along.

Q What are the potential benefits of the study?

Because the research looks at brothers and sisters of children with ASD *as a group*, we will not be able to give you any feedback or advice on the basis of your child's *individual* results. Furthermore, the tasks cannot be used to diagnose autism. We will, however, take the time to answer any questions you may have. We hope that the knowledge we obtain from the study will provide us with a better understanding of ASD and lead to new strategies for helping children with this disorder.

Q How can I find out about the results of the research?

We will send you an annual newsletter with updates on the progress of our research. Furthermore, we are planning to publish the findings of the study in well-renowned scientific journals. These journals are usually available in university libraries or can be obtained from us on request.

Q Who should I contact if I need more information?

Please contact:

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