

Table DS1 Phenotypic correlations for entire sample (full-range scores) and phenotypic group correlations between autistic traits and IQ and academic achievement with cut-offs of 15%, 5%, 2% and 1%^a

| | Full-range scores | | Phenotypic group correlations ^b | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | Extreme 15% | | Extreme 5% | | Extreme 2% | Extreme 1% |
| | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | Both sexes | Both sexes |
| Age 7/8 (Parent CAST) | | | | | | | | |
| IQ | −0.18 | −0.21 | −0.16/−0.13 | −0.15/−0.21 | −0.24/−0.12 | −0.19/−0.18 | −0.20/−0.14 | −0.25/−0.14 |
| Academic achievement | −0.22 | −0.23 | −0.23/−0.18 | −0.21/−0.20 | −0.24/−0.23 | −0.26/−0.26 | −0.32/−0.30 | −0.35/−0.32 |
| Age 9 (Teacher CAST) | | | | | | | | |
| IQ | −0.12 | −0.07 | −0.09/−0.08 | −0.03/−0.07 | −0.18/−0.07 | −0.06/−0.01 | −0.14/−0.05 | −0.13/−0.04 |
| Academic achievement | −0.24 | −0.24 | −0.31/−0.24 | −0.28/−0.29 | −0.40/−0.17 | −0.39/−0.29 | −0.45/−0.19 | −0.49/−0.21 |

CAST, Childhood Autism Spectrum Test.
a. Associations given separately for boys and girls in the full-range scores and the extreme 15% and 5%. Limited sample size did not allow separate associations by sex in the 2% and 1% extreme groups.
b. For the phenotypic group correlations, the first correlation is for IQ/academic achievement as the selected variables, the second is for CAST as the selected variable.

Table DS2 Phenotypic correlations for entire sample (full-range scores) and phenotypic group correlations between the triad of autistic traits and IQ and academic achievement

| | Childhood Autism Spectrum Test (95% CI) | | |
|---|---|--|---------------------------|
| | Social impairments | Restricted repetitive behaviours and interests | Communication impairments |
| <i>Full-range scores (95% CI)</i> | | | |
| Age 7/8 (Parent report) | | | |
| IQ | −0.10 (−0.13 to −0.10) | −0.07 (−0.09 to −0.04) | −0.24 (−0.26 to −0.21) |
| Academic achievement | −0.07 (−0.09 to −0.05) | −0.09 (−0.12 to −0.06) | −0.29 (−0.30 to −0.26) |
| Age 9 (Teacher report) | | | |
| IQ | −0.06 (−0.09 to −0.02) | 0.09 (0.06 to 0.13) | −0.20 (−0.23 to −0.20) |
| Academic achievement | −0.18 (−0.21 to −0.15) | 0.09 (0.06 to 0.12) | −0.37 (−0.37 to −0.34) |
| <i>Phenotypic group correlations extreme 5%^a</i> | | | |
| Age 7/8 (Parent report) | | | |
| IQ | −0.11/−0.10 | −0.09/−0.06 | −0.27/−0.21 |
| Academic achievement | −0.12/−0.08 | −0.12/−0.16 | −0.29/−0.26 |
| Age 9 (Teacher report) | | | |
| IQ | −0.08/−0.04 | 0.05/0.07 | −0.20/−0.13 |
| Academic achievement | −0.30/−0.19 | −0.05/0.03 | −0.50/−0.35 |

a. For the phenotypic group correlations, the first correlation is for IQ/academic achievement as the selected variable, the second is for the Childhood Autism Spectrum Test score as the selected variable.

Table DS3 Results for DeFries–Fulker univariate and bivariate extremes analyses for autistic-like communication impairments (communication impairments as assessed by the Childhood Autism Spectrum Test (CAST))^{a,b}

| | Proband, <i>n</i> | Univariate | | Bivariate (IQ/academic achievement) | | | | Bivariate (CAST communication impairments) | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|------------------------|--|---------|---------|------------------------|-------------------|
| | | Proband | Co-twin | h^2_g (95% CI) | Proband | Co-twin | B_2 (95% CI) | Bivariate h^2_g | Proband | Co-twin | B_2 (95% CI) | Bivariate h^2_g |
| <i>Parent CAST communication impairments age 8</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Standardised scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 227 | 2.71 | 2.13 | | | | | | | | | |
| DZ | 206 | 2.66 | 0.80 | | | | | | | | | |
| Transformed scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 227 | 1.00 | 0.79 | | | | | | | | | |
| DZ | 206 | 1.00 | 0.30 | 0.79 (0.72 to 0.86) | | | | | | | | |
| <i>IQ age 7</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Standardised scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 174 | -2.12 | -1.39 | | 0.50 | 0.52 | | | -0.69 | -0.61 | | |
| DZ | 172 | -2.16 | -1.08 | | 0.54 | 0.11 | | | -0.34 | -0.13 | | |
| Transformed scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 174 | 1.00 | 0.66 | | -0.24 | -0.25 | | | -0.27 | -0.24 | | |
| DZ | 172 | 1.00 | 0.50 | 0.31 (0.11 to 0.51) | -0.25 | -0.05 | -0.25 (-0.35 to -0.15) | 0.93 | -0.14 | -0.05 | -0.23 (-0.45 to -0.01) | 1.00 |
| <i>Academic achievement age 7</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Standardised scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 218 | -2.60 | -2.21 | | 0.76 | 0.63 | | | -0.83 | -0.79 | | |
| DZ | 157 | -2.58 | -1.08 | | 0.63 | 0.25 | | | -0.72 | -0.18 | | |
| Transformed scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 218 | 1.00 | 0.85 | | -0.29 | -0.25 | | | -0.33 | -0.31 | | |
| DZ | 157 | 1.00 | 0.42 | 0.85 (0.78 to 0.92) | -0.25 | -0.10 | -0.24 (-0.44 to -0.04) | 0.92 | -0.28 | -0.07 | -0.31 (-0.42 to 0.20) | 1.00 |
| <i>Teacher CAST communication impairments age 9</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Standardised scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 90 | 2.72 | 1.73 | | | | | | | | | |
| DZ | 98 | 2.73 | 0.91 | | | | | | | | | |
| Transformed scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 90 | 1.00 | 0.63 | | | | | | | | | |
| DZ | 98 | 1.00 | 0.33 | 0.60 (0.29 to 0.91) | | | | | | | | |
| <i>IQ age 9</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Standardised scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 110 | -2.26 | -1.62 | | 0.39 | 0.21 | | | -0.49 | -0.41 | | |
| DZ | 113 | -2.26 | -1.12 | | 0.43 | -0.01 | | | -0.05 | 0.06 | | |
| Transformed scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 110 | 1.00 | 0.72 | | -0.18 | -0.10 | | | -0.19 | -0.16 | | |
| DZ | 113 | 1.00 | 0.49 | 0.44 (0.23 to 0.65) | -0.19 | 0.00 | -0.10 (-0.34 to 0.04) | 0.50 | -0.02 | 0.02 | -0.13 (-0.35 to 0.09) | 1.00 |
| <i>Academic achievement age 9</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Standardised scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 85 | -2.20 | -1.86 | | 1.16 | 0.97 | | | -0.88 | -0.80 | | |
| DZ | 72 | -2.22 | -0.88 | | 1.03 | 0.32 | | | -0.77 | -0.36 | | |
| Transformed scores | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MZ | 85 | 1.00 | 0.85 | | -0.53 | -0.44 | | | -0.33 | -0.29 | | |
| DZ | 72 | 1.00 | 0.40 | 0.85 (0.75 to 0.95) | -0.47 | -0.14 | -0.44 (-0.59 to -0.29) | 0.83 | -0.29 | -0.13 | -0.29 (-0.51 to -0.07) | 0.88 |

h^2_g , group heritability; B_2 , bivariate genetic DeFries–Fulker estimate; MZ, monozygotic; DZ, dizygotic twin.

a. Group heritability (h^2_g) estimates were constrained to be equal to or lower than the transformed MZ co-twin mean. In bivariate analyses the selected variable is given in parentheses.

b. The 95% CIs were calculated using corrected standard errors.