



Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

In this questionnaire the terms mother and father are used. These words refer to the parents or guardians of the child.

What is the questionnaire for?

- This is a questionnaire about the German language skills of children with German as a second language. Parents fill in the questionnaire. Their children can be between 31 and 48 months old.
- The questionnaire measures the level of German language skills. If they are low, there is need for support.
- The questionnaire contributes to improving the educational opportunities of children who grow up multilingual or of children with a migration background.

What is the DaZ-E questionnaire about?

- The questionnaire DaZ-E was developed according to scientific rules. It serves as an instrument for evaluating the language level. It is available as paper-based questionnaire in twelve languages and as a web-based questionnaire in eleven languages.
- Parents answer questions about their children's use of the German language.

Who has developed the questionnaire?

- The questionnaire was developed at the Faculty of Psychology at the University of Basel. The Department of Developmental and Personality Psychology is responsible for the questionnaire.

Who is the customer?

- The customer for the conduct of the present survey is the municipality or the canton. The corresponding logo can be found on the questionnaire.

What is the background of this project?

- The canton of Basel-Stadt started the program "With sufficient German language skills in kindergarten" in 2008. It aims to balance the educational opportunities of children with and without German as a family language.
- Since 2013, the canton of Basel-Stadt has a " Selective Obligation". If 1 ½ years before starting kindergarten it is determined that the children's German language skills will be insufficient, they must attend an institution with integrated German language support. The German language support takes place two half days a week for one year.
- Other municipalities and cantons have joined this model. The scope of the support and obligation may differ from the Basel Model.



How is the quality of the questionnaire to be assessed?

- The questionnaire meets and exceeds the standards of test statistical quality criteria.
- Since its validation and standardization, the questionnaire has been continuously checked and refined.

What happens with my data?

- The municipality or canton assigns a numerical code to each family. In this way the family's personal information is encrypted. Only the municipality or canton can assign the numerical codes to the families.
- The University of Basel receives only the numerical codes from the municipalities.
- The separation of numerical code and personal information guarantees the anonymity of the data.
- The University of Basel uses the anonymous data for the further development of the questionnaire and for research purposes.
- The municipality or canton decides whether a German language support is necessary based on the language level.