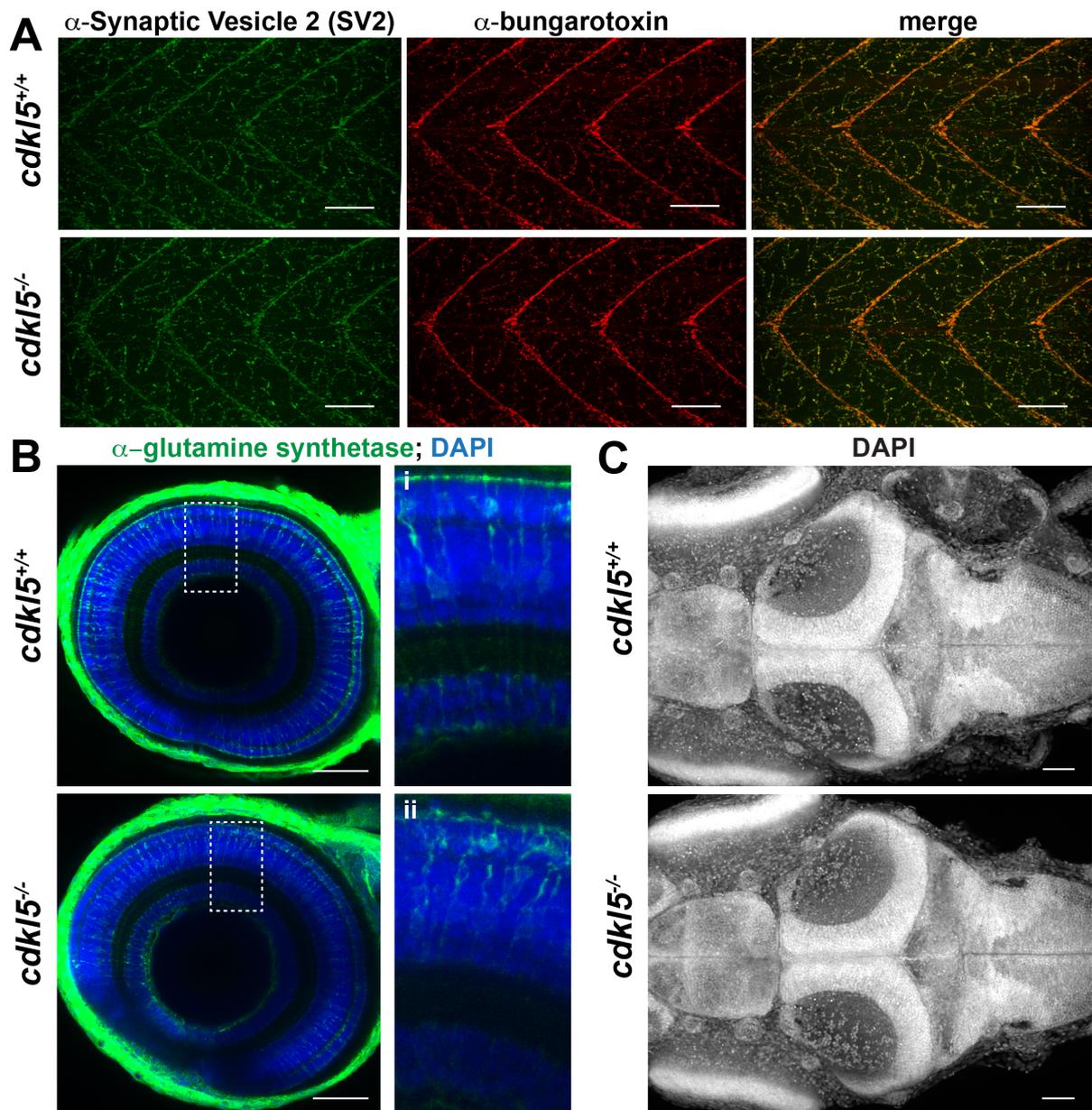


**Fig. S1. *In situ* hybridisation of *cdkl5* expression during early zebrafish development.**

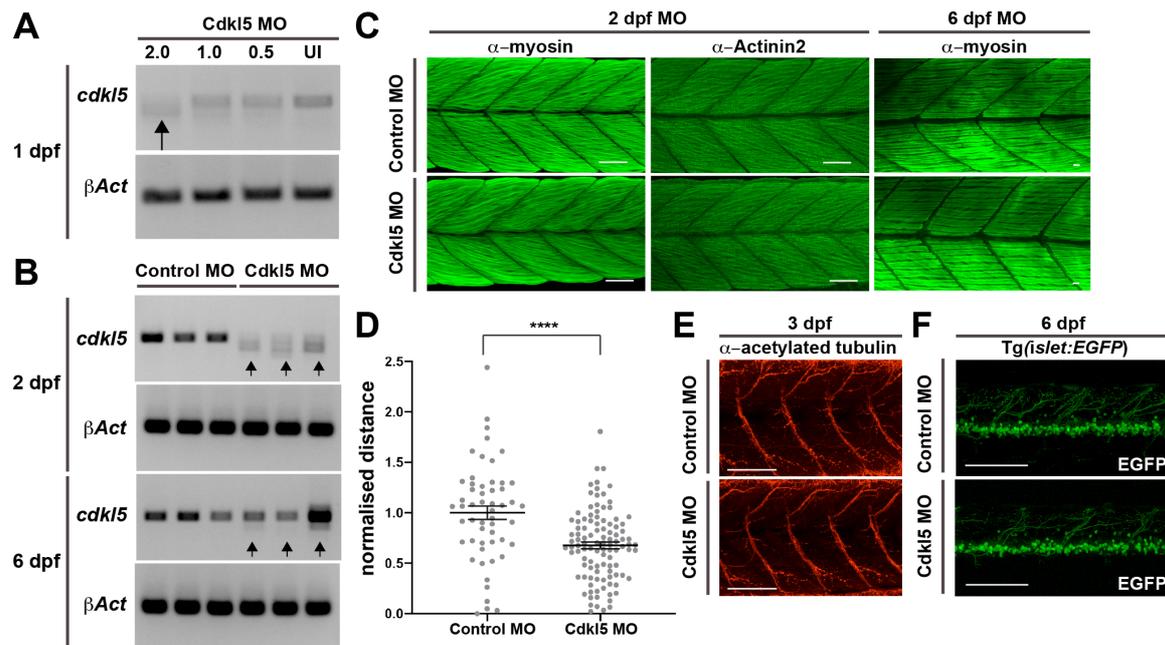
A&C) Using a *cdkl5* antisense probe, we detected *cdkl5* expression in A) whole-mount embryos and C) tissue sections in the brain, eyes, pectoral fins, and skeletal muscle along the trunk at 1 dpf and 2 dpf. At 3 dpf, *cdkl5* is detected in the brain, heart, eyes, developing gut, notochord and horizontal myosepta. Scale bar = 100µm. B) Low level background staining was observed using a *cdkl5* sense probe. (B=brain, E=eye, F=pectoral fins, G=gut primordium, H=heart, HM=horizontal myosepta, K=kidney, M=muscle, NC=notochord).



**Fig. S2. Swimming trajectories of *cdk15*<sup>-/-</sup> fish.** Representative images of swimming trajectories of *cdk15*<sup>+/+</sup>, *cdk15*<sup>+/-</sup>, and *cdk15*<sup>-/-</sup> fish for 10-min locomotion assays at 6 dpf. Green depicts activity within the detection threshold and red depicts movement above the maximum burst threshold.



**Fig. S3.** Assessment of neurological phenotypes in *cdk15*<sup>-/-</sup> fish at 6 dpf. Maximum intensity projections of confocal images of A) Synaptic Vesicle 2 antibody staining and  $\alpha$ -bungarotoxin staining of skeletal muscle, B) DAPI and  $\alpha$ -glutamine synthetase antibody staining of eyes and C) DAPI staining on brain tissue in whole-mount *cdk15*<sup>+/+</sup> and *cdk15*<sup>-/-</sup> fish. Scale bar for A&B) = 100 $\mu$ m and for C) = 50 $\mu$ m.



**Fig. S4. Morpholino knockdown of Cdk15.** A) RT-PCR analysis for *cdk15* mRNA at 1 dpf following Cdk15 MO injection. The amplicon in uninjected fish is the expected product size of 424 bp and is present with decreasing intensity in the Cdk15 MO-injected fish as the injected concentration of MO increases from 0.5 ng to 2.0 ng. The lower bands (arrow) appear in the Cdk15 MO-injected fish at the 2.0 ng concentration and results from mis-splicing of the *cdk15* mRNA.  $\beta$ -Act was amplified as a positive control. B) RT-PCR analysis for three independent replicates at 2 dpf and 6 dpf. Mis-spliced *cdk15* mRNA is observed in Cdk15 MO-injected fish and not Standard Control MO-injected fish at 2 dpf. At 6 dpf, the correct *cdk15* amplicon is present in Cdk15 MO-injected fish, however, it is diminished in intensity, demonstrating a reduction in *cdk15* mRNA levels compared to Standard Control MO-injected fish.  $\beta$ -Act was amplified as a positive control for each sample. C) Maximum intensity projections of confocal images of  $\alpha$ -myosin and  $\alpha$ -Actinin2 antibody staining at 2 dpf and  $\alpha$ -myosin antibody staining at 6 dpf of Cdk15 MO and Standard Control MO-injected fish. D) Quantification of normalised distance travelled of Cdk15 MO-injected and Standard Control MO-injected fish at 6 dpf. Error bars represent mean $\pm$ SEM for three independent experiments (n=18, 17, 19 Standard Control MO-injected fish and n=27, 39, 40 Cdk15 MO-injected fish), \*\*\*\*p<0.0001, using a two-tailed t-test. E&F) Maximum intensity projections of confocal images of E)  $\alpha$ -acetylated tubulin antibody staining of Cdk15 MO and Standard Control MO-injected fish at 3 dpf and F) EGFP- labelled motor neurons in the spinal cord of Tg(*islet1:EGFP*) injected with either a Cdk15 MO or Standard Control MO at 6 dpf. Scale bar = 100 $\mu$ m.