

Name of Study: Prosody in Autism

Location: (Please choose one) 1) Speech Therapy Group, Beverly, MA; 2) Boston College campus, Chestnut Hill, MA; 3) Your home

Eligibility Criteria: Children aged 5-9 years with a high-functioning autism diagnosis and normal hearing per their school's audiometric testing

Principal Investigator: Kathryn Caddick, PhD candidate, Boston College

Contact Information: (516) 661-3636; email: CaddickK@bc.edu

Dear Parents,

The study consists of one hour long session. Your child will be asked to tell whether a taped voice is "asking" or "telling" something based on the prosody, which will either be normal or digitally processed such that variation in pitch will be removed entirely or reduced. Your child's next task involves voices with the same digital manipulations, but the child will be asked if the person's voice is "happy," "angry," or "calm." They will respond by pointing to drawn faces which are regularly encountered in most special education classrooms. There is no cost to you for participation in this research study beyond a small time commitment, for which your child will receive stickers throughout their session and the dispensing of the stickers will *not* be tied to study completion.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention and we look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Kathryn Caddick
Ph.D. Candidate
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467