

Taking Part

If you would like your child to take part, please complete the consent form and communication questionnaire enclosed.

We hope your child can get involved and help us learn more about how children use and understand prosody.

Contact

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact one of our Speech and Language Therapists:



Jennifer Harte

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Deirdre O' Leary

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Or contact Principal Investigator:

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For more information, please visit:

www.ucc.ie/en/hrb-prosody



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Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland



Prosody Study

Information Leaflet for Parents and Carers

**Profiling Receptive and Expressive
Prosodic Skills in Children with
Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus**



Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences
University College Cork
Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, College Road, Cork

The Study

My name is Alice Lee. I am a Speech and Language Therapist and a Lecturer in University College Cork. We are working on a research project funded by the Health Research Board (HRB) on prosodic skills in children with spina bifida and typically developing children.

What is Prosody?

Prosody is a very important component in everyday communication. It adds to the verbal messages by conveying information on the speaker's attitude, mood, and emotion. "It's not what you say, but the way that you say it" summarises the meaning carried through prosody.



Participants of this Study

We are looking for children who are:

- ✓ Aged between 4½ years and 12 years.
- ✓ Have no known learning, speech, language, hearing difficulties, nor physical disability.
- ✓ Are English speakers (Exposed to Irish-English at school and/or at home for 3 years).
- ✓ Have lived in Ireland for the last 3 years.

What will your Child have to do?

Your child will be seen at school at a time and date that suits you. The research tasks will take place over 2/3 sessions, each lasting approx. 1 hour:

Session 1: • Quick hearing test • Story telling task • Language comprehension test • Language production test • Examination of oral structures (e.g. tongue, lips) and their movement

Session 2: • Prosody test (A computerised test operated by one of our Speech and Language Therapists).



All research tasks will be carried out by one of our qualified Speech and Language Therapists. With your consent, the sessions will be audio recorded for further analysis. Another adult with Garda Clearance will be present in the room at all times.

Is assessed in school, the time for which your child is taken out of class will be negotiated with the teacher so that s/he will not be disadvantaged in any way. If your child asks to stop, the task will be stopped immediately.

At the end of the last session, your child will receive a certificate and a €15 Smyths Toy voucher. An assessment summary report can be sent to you.

What will we do with your Child's data?

Your child's data will be recorded and analysed. At all times, information will be kept confidential and secure.

The research findings will be presented at professional conferences and published in academic Journals; however, no identifying information of any child will be mentioned (except the age, gender and scores).

CONFIDENTIAL



Benefits of this Study

The findings of this project will inform best practice in speech and language therapy services, which could potentially lead to better long-term outcomes related to communication, such as independence, employment, post-secondary education and socialisation for people with spina bifida.

