

SC358046

Registered provider: The SENAD Group Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run service is registered as a children's home, with a school on the same site. The home provides care for up to 32 children with autism spectrum disorder, Aspergers syndrome, acquired brain injury and/or communication difficulties. Most of the children living here return to their family home for the school holidays.

The manager was registered with Ofsted in 2014. She is qualified and has substantial experience.

The inspectors only inspected the social care provision at this school.

Inspection date: 4 July 2022

This monitoring visit

This children's home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 9 and 10 May 2022. This monitoring visit was carried out to judge whether the compliance actions set following the inadequate judgement were found to be met.

Following the inspection, a compliance notice was issued in respect of the leadership and management of the home. Several statutory requirements were also made. At this monitoring visit, the compliance notice was found to be met.

The risk management plans relating to children's care at night are now much improved. The use of a waking night staff member has been implemented by leaders, together with the use of motion sensors. This ensures the safety of children while they are asleep.

Leaders and managers have taken steps to improve the consistency of care that children receive, despite staff vacancies. Leaders and managers have tried to use the

same agency staff members, along with permanent staff working additional shifts. This means that children maintain positive trusting relationships with staff they know. However, staff turnover remains a concern for leaders and managers, and they are taking steps to improve this situation.

Children can reflect on their behaviour and discuss their worries with staff. Leaders and managers have introduced a 'behaviour coaching log'. This is restorative in nature and helps children to communicate their feelings in a safe way and helps alleviate children's anxieties.

There has been a strong emphasis on staff development and training to ensure that all staff have a robust knowledge of their safeguarding roles and responsibilities. This is reinforced by the highly reflective and good-quality supervision that takes place with staff. Managers now use scenarios with staff to further develop their knowledge and awareness of safeguarding. Managers now have better oversight of all aspects of the home and the care provided.

Children's wishes and views have been sought, through questionnaires and key-work sessions. Staff and managers will act on children's wishes and views when possible. For example, a new high bed and wardrobe were put in place for a child who requested this. This means that children feel listened to and valued.

Incidents are well managed by staff and thoroughly documented. There has been an improvement in recording and reporting following staff training and development in this area. The culture of the home, in relation to managing children's behaviour, has shifted from being reactive to more proactive in supporting children at an earlier stage. This helps to manage complex situations before they escalate. For example, staff were able to allay one child's fears through a meaningful discussion, without the situation escalating and becoming more challenging.

Staff are aware of how to keep children safe and are more vigilant. Children's risk assessments provide thorough guidance to staff in managing quite complex risks. The team around the child, together with the child, is involved in reviewing important documents. This ensures a consistent approach to behaviour management.

The statutory requirements set at the last inspection were also found to be met. Managers and staff have taken steps to ensure that children are supported to develop and maintain positive relationships and are able to identify relationships that may be damaging or harmful. They have done this through additional education and training. This was done in-house through their school's PHSE teacher, as well as commissioning sessions for children and parents and training for staff on safer relationships and issues of consent.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/05/2022	Full	Inadequate
06/07/2021	Full	Good
10/07/2019	Full	Good
26/09/2018	Full	Outstanding

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC358046

Provision sub-type: Residential special school

Registered provider: The SENAD Group Limited

Registered provider address: Senad Group Ltd, 1 St Georges House, Vernon Gate, Derby DE1 1UQ

Responsible individual: Mark Flynn

Registered manager: Karen Tatham

Inspectors

Pradip Panchmatia, Social Care Inspector
Zoey Lee, Social Care Inspector

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