

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC372504
Inspector	Amanda Ellis
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Residential special school (>295 days/year)

Registered person	The Senad Group Limited
Registered person address	1 St. Georges House Vernon Gate DERBY DE1 1UQ
Responsible individual	Mark Flynn
Registered manager	POST VACANT / Fiona Davidson
Date of last inspection	09/07/2014

Inspection date	03/02/2015
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Previous inspection	outstanding
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

This inspection

This home was judged outstanding at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has **sustained effectiveness**.

The last full inspection in July 2014 judged the home as outstanding in all respects, with no requirements or recommendations raised. This was testament to the excellent childcare practice in the management, care, education and therapy teams.

Since this time, the Registered Manager has retired from the service after providing a lengthy 'handover' to the homes new manager. The new manager has submitted an application for registration with Ofsted and an interview took place on the same date as the interim inspection.

The home has welcomed new children and young people to the home since the last inspection. The planning for admissions to this home is rigorous and ensures that the needs of all young people are fully considered before new placements are agreed. All children and young people have a thorough multi-disciplinary assessment prior to admission to the home. This assessment is fully inclusive of care, education and therapeutic professionals. The views of parents and their children are fully included throughout this process and essential information is gathered. This ensures care planning is detailed, comprehensive and individualised to the needs and preferences of children and young people. This means children and young people have their needs fully understood and met from the time they are admitted to the home.

The home provides care for many children and young people on a long-term basis. Children and young people remain settled in their placements with their growth, development and progress meticulously monitored. All children and young people attend the providers on-site Department for Education registered school. Attendance and attainment within school is very good. Additionally, children and young people benefit from a range of extra-curricular activities that promote education, enjoyment and social engagement. Consequently, children and young people benefit from a

well-rounded lifestyle that promotes both learning and leisure.

Children and young people benefit from nurturing care provided by a dedicated core staff team. Staff demonstrate resilience in working creatively with complex and challenging behaviours. Children and young people develop trust, feel secure and form good attachments with their staff teams. Children and young people are happy and settled in this home.

Some young people have moved from the residential provision to rehabilitation home, in line with care plans. In such circumstances, careful planning and preparation has enabled young people to successfully adapt to changes in their routines and maintain placements as day students in the school. Throughout these transitions, staff worked closely with young people, parents and social care professionals to promote positive transitions.

A programme of maintenance and renovation to the interior of the residential homes is underway. Significant improvements include a scheme of redecoration throughout the homes: installation of new domestic kitchens and bathrooms, new floor surfacing and carpets. The home environment is further enhanced with the replacement of furnishings. This has improved the appearance of the home considerably and has meant the home looks homely, comfortable and welcoming.

The management team are supported by a designated Health and Safety Manager. This role ensures the home has established relationships with safeguarding agencies, including the Local Authority Designated Officer. She ensures that safeguarding protocols and procedures are followed, allegations pursued in accordance with statutory guidelines and that multi-agency meetings take place to review plans and monitor progress. These processes ensure that safeguarding concerns are shared and appropriate actions agreed. This means the welfare and safeguarding needs of children and young people are consistently promoted.

The manager routinely undertakes detailed monitoring of the services provided to all children and young people. Additionally comprehensive and detailed monthly reports from the home's independent visitor support the quality assurance processes. Shortfalls identified within these reports are acted upon in a timely manner. The manager understands the strengths and weaknesses of the home. Currently, the management team are revising and updating the homes development plan to ensure on-going progression and improvement.

Information about this children's home

This service is part of a privately owned residential school for children and young people with learning difficulties. The service can accommodate up to 55 children and young people.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/07/2014	Full	outstanding
07/02/2014	Interim	good progress
26/09/2013	Full	good
05/03/2013	Interim	good progress

What inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspections we make a judgement on whether the home has improved in effectiveness, sustained effectiveness, or declined in effectiveness since the previous full inspection. This is in line with the *Inspection of children's homes: framework for inspection*.

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this inspection is to assure children and young people, parents, the public, local authorities and government of the quality and standard of the service provided. The inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service and to consider how well it complies with the relevant regulations and meets the national minimum standards.

The report details the main strengths, any areas for improvement, including any breaches of regulation, and any failure to meet national minimum standards. The judgements included in the report are made against the framework of inspection for children's homes.