

## Children's homes - interim inspection

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| <b>Inspection date</b>           | <b>25/02/2016</b>                                                                |
| <b>Unique reference number</b>   | <b>SC372504</b>                                                                  |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>        | <b>Interim</b>                                                                   |
| <b>Provision subtype</b>         | <b>Residential special school</b>                                                |
| <b>Registered person</b>         | <b>The Senad Group Limited</b>                                                   |
| <b>Registered person address</b> | <b>Senad Group Ltd, 1 St.<br/>Georges House, Vernon Gate,<br/>DERBY, DE1 1UQ</b> |

|                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Responsible individual</b> | <b>Mark Flynn</b>       |
| <b>Registered manager</b>     | <b>Lesley Mawbey</b>    |
| <b>Inspector</b>              | <b>Rachel Griffiths</b> |

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| <b>Inspection date</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>25/02/2016</b> |
| <b>Previous inspection judgement</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Good</b>       |
| <b>Enforcement action since last inspection</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>None</b>       |
| <b>This inspection</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                   |
| <p><b>The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.</b></p> <p>This home was judged <b>Good</b> at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has <b>sustained effectiveness</b>.</p> <p>This service continues to provide a good service to children and young people. Parents and professionals speak very favourable about the progress and experiences they have. A parent said: 'My daughter is happy and her progress is across the board. Her behaviour has improved, the number of incidents are going down, she is doing well in school, she is doing lots of activities and her confidence continues to grow.' A social worker commented: 'There is a marked improvement in this young person's physical and emotional health. Staff manage him really well and it is the most settled he has ever been. It really is a fantastic placement.' Children and young people are happy and continue to thrive.</p> <p>Comprehensive packages of multi-agency support and close working relationships between staff and parents enhance children's and young people's progress. A parent said: 'My son gets all the help he needs. He has support from the speech and language team, an occupational therapist and a physiotherapist. All that, together with a twenty-four curriculum and the close working relationship between me and the staff has really helped him. He used to be really aggressive, but as a result of the therapies and consistent support, he is communicating and listening better and he is so much less anxious and aggressive.' Challenging behaviours reduce and this helps improve the quality of family relationships.</p> <p>Staff continue to support children and young people to develop their life and social skills by helping them to become more independent and encouraging them to participate in a variety of community activities. A social worker said: 'This young person is developing life skills and he now has a real social life. He loves going to Zumba and he is more confident. I have seen him transform into a totally different young person to when he first arrived.' Involvement within the community and improved life skills help children and young people to feel valued and to raise their confidence and self-esteem.</p> <p>Responses to the homes first incident of a young person going missing have been robust. The young person swiftly and safely returned to the home as a result of staff following the homes missing policy and procedures. An immediate review and</p> |                   |

update of the young person's individual risk assessment took place. Additionally creative work was undertaken with him in respect of the dangers of going missing that have effectively prevented further incidents occurring and increased his levels of safety.

Improvements implemented during the last inspection in relation to safeguarding procedures are now embedded. Improved induction training, refreshers for established staff and the compilation of a simple flow chart confirming the actions staff must take if a potential safeguarding concern comes to their attention, have enhanced practice in this area. A requirement set at the last inspection in respect of this has been met.

Staff knowledge and insight into the complex health and communication needs of children and young people is very good as a result of excellent training programmes and support provided by professionals with specialist knowledge of particular conditions. For example, training and specialist support in relation to prada-willi syndrome ensures that staff meet the needs of children and young people diagnosed with this condition very well. A social worker said: 'Staff understand this young person very well.' A parent commented: 'My daughters health needs are very well supported. She has lost weight and is physically healthier.' Consequently, children's and young people's complex individual health and communication needs are fully addressed.

All children and young people attend the on-site school. However, staff's understanding in respect of children's and young people's educational progress, levels and targets is limited. This and the absence of children's and young people's school reports being included in case files prevents staff from helping them to achieve or surpass the targets set out in their individual education plans. These are regulatory shortfalls, which, although not having a negative impact on children's and young people's welfare at this time, have the potential to limit educational progress in the future.

Monitoring and quality assurance systems continue to be good. The management team are very reflective and regularly consult with children and young people, the staff team, parents and professionals in order to find ways to continually improve the service.

## 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    |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 09/09/2015      | Full            | Good                    |
| 03/02/2015      | Interim         | sustained effectiveness |
| 09/07/2014      | Full            | Outstanding             |
| 07/02/2014      | Interim         | Good Progress           |

## What does the children's home need to do to improve?

### Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the *Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards*. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

| Requirement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Due date   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <p>8: The education standard</p> <p>In order to meet the education standard the registered person must:</p> <p>2 (a) (I) ensure that staff help each child to achieve the child's education and training targets, as recorded in the child's relevant plans.</p>                                                                          | 22/04/2016 |
| <p>The registered person must maintain records (Case records) for each child which will include all information and documentation listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child, with particular reference to every school report while the child is accommodated in the home being part of the case record. (Regulation 36 (1) (a))</p> | 22/04/2016 |

## **What the inspection judgements mean**

At the interim inspection 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**

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, young people and their families. In addition the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people who it is trying to help, protect and look after.

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

This 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 Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the *Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards*.

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