Dear Ms. Dodds,

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NUMBER 196259:

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what estimate he has made of the number of children’s home placements available for children with a combination of autistic spectrum disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Your Parliamentary Question was passed to me, as Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector, for response.

Since 2001, legislation has set out the types of children and young people’s needs that children’s homes in England may cater for and that Ofsted, as the regulator should retain in its register. Those categories are:

- children with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties (EBD)
- children with physical disabilities (PD)
- children with learning disabilities (LD)
- children with mental disorders, excluding learning disability (MD)
- children with present drug dependence (D)
- children with present alcohol dependence (A)
- children with sensory impairment (SI).

Children’s homes can cater for more than one of these categories of need. The ‘Care Standards Act 2000 (Registration) (England) Regulations 2010’ requires Ofsted to keep this data, and children’s homes providers give this information to Ofsted when applying for registration. We check the categories are appropriate as part of our decision whether to register a new provider. If the provider wants to change the categories once registered, they need to apply to Ofsted to vary their conditions of registration and we make a decision on whether the change is appropriate.

These categories do not require Ofsted to record the number of placements available for children with an autistic spectrum disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

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Chart 1: Number of total registered places, by category, plus the number of homes for each category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registered type of need catered for</th>
<th>Total number of places</th>
<th>EBD</th>
<th>MD</th>
<th>SI</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>LD</th>
<th>PD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>11644</td>
<td>7622</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>953</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>5385</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s homes</td>
<td>9621</td>
<td>7139</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3612</td>
<td>1616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential special schools</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1773</td>
<td>396</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above gives, the total number of places broken down by the registered type of need the home caters for. It also shows the total number of homes that those places are offered in. Many homes have multiple specialisms on offer.

A number of homes are residential special schools registered as children’s homes and these have been identified separately. As larger institutions – there are about 70 of them – they have more places than the average children’s home. In the majority of children’s homes, children are looked after. However, in these residential special schools, the numbers of children looked after in each can be quite small. Therefore, the number of places for these residential special schools can be misleading as there will be children in these schools who are primarily resident for educational or health purposes, but who are not looked after.

This data only relates to places registered with Ofsted as children’s homes and not to other places where children may live.

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1 The date included in this PQ will also be made available on the Ofsted website.
I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Spielman

Amanda Spielman
Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector