



The Paragon Management Company Limited

Dear new resident,

Welcome to The Paragon!

We hope you will enjoy living here as much as the many long-standing residents do. After all, there can't be many places as tranquil, beautiful, and conveniently located. Built in 1795, The Paragon has been recognised as one of London's architectural masterpieces. Like Westminster Abbey (built in 1050), the Palace of Westminster (1097) and St Pauls (1711), The Paragon is Grade One listed. Most residents – many of whom work from home – cite the peaceful garden as a particular joy.

Step out of the drive and Greenwich Park, the Royal Observatory and the Planetarium lie just across the heath. Besides some good shops, cafes and restaurants, Blackheath Village is also home to the Blackheath Halls – noted for having some of the best acoustics in London – and the Blackheath Conservatoire, which runs music and art classes for all ages. Jump on a train at Blackheath station and, thanks to direct services to London Bridge, Cannon Street, Charing Cross and Victoria, you can be in central London within 15 to 20 minutes. In the opposite direction, by changing to the DLR at Woolwich Arsenal you can be walking into London City Airport within 18 minutes of closing your front door.

But – sigh – there are downsides to living at The Paragon.

Its age means it's not the most robust building. Soundproofing is poor. Walls and floors are thin. To avoid driving each other mad we all need to be mindful of not slamming the heavy old front doors, thumping up and down the stairs, playing music loudly, or talking noisily in the halls.

The drains are prone to blockage. That means in the kitchens it is especially important not to put any oil or fat down the sink and in the bathroom not to flush wipes or anything thicker than loo paper.

And although the gardens are carefully maintained by two gardeners, we should point out that some of the plants, berries and leaves are poisonous. Hence a parent or carer should accompany small children when they're in the garden, where noise, of course, should be kept to a minimum so that everyone can enjoy this lovely resource. Dogs are welcome in the back garden as long as they're on a lead.

The Paragon has a website – theparagonblackheath.com – which goes into more detail about everyday living here (parking, repairs, etc) and which we hope you'll find useful. As well as containing additional detail about living at The Paragon, it has a section we'd like to expand in which everyone is invited to list any local services, tradesmen and amenities they'd like to recommend.

If you have any questions not answered by a browse around the site, each house at The Paragon has a volunteer house representative who should be able to help. You can contact them via the site.

Again, welcome – and we hope you love living here as much as we do.

Warm regards