

## Heating Your Home

**Summer's over (boo!), the nights are drawing in, it's getting colder & it's time to think about turning the Central Heating on...**

It's worth familiarising yourself with how your boiler works, how you can adjust the heat of individual radiators in your property, how to use the thermostat and how to set the boiler to run off a timer now, so when the temperature really drops you know how to work the Central Heating system in your home.

It's important that you heat your home over the colder months for a number of reasons:

- 1). To ensure your home is a comfortable and pleasant place for you to live.
- 2). To prevent mould forming as a result of condensation.
- 3). In very cold weather to stop pipes from freezing and bursting.



**TRV'S:** In some properties TRV'S are fitted on one side of the radiator (see the photograph to the left) \*please note, these are not in all of our properties. Thermostatic Radiator Valves enable you to control the heat of individual radiators in your property. If you're too hot in your room for instance you can decrease the temperature of your own radiator, while leaving the one in the bathroom on a higher setting if it's colder in there.

\*There will usually be at least one radiator in your property where you won't be able to control the temperature with a TRV – this is to prevent the boiler becoming damaged (if the heating is on, but the TRV's are all turned off, the pressure would have nowhere to go and would damage the boiler which is why one radiator at least will be without a TRV).

### Thermostats:

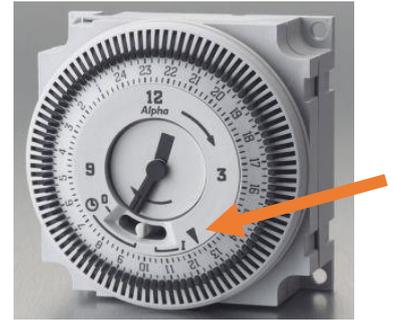
You may have either a digital (first photo to the right) or manual (second image) thermostat in your property. These work with the boiler... if you set the



boiler to 'constant' and then use the thermostat to guide the boiler as to what temperature you'd like the property to be heating up to (between 18 – 21 degrees Celsius generally), the boiler will turn on and off as required in order to ensure that your home stays warm. \*This is a good way to opt to heat your house as it means the boiling isn't having to fire up and heat the property up from very cold to warm, which uses more energy than the boiler coming on for short periods here and there to top up the temperature.

# Help & Advice

**Using the Timer:** Another good option for heating your house is to use the timer on the boiler to set the heating to turn on and then off automatically at times you select through the day/night. The small arrow on the middle dial, which the orange arrow on this document points to, needs to be pointing at the actual time.



1). Check what time it is on your watch or phone and turn the outside dial (the bit with all of the little black needles on it) around until the small arrow on the middle dial is pointing to the correct time. This works like a...

24 hour clock, so if it's 7.30pm the black arrow on the middle dial should be pointing halfway between 19 and 20 on the outer dial.

2). Now your boiler knows what time it is you can tell it when to turn on and off: this is where the little black needles on the outer dial come in. You'll notice that each needle on the outer dial lines up with each little segment on the 24 hours clock. Push the switches in for the times you want the heating on and out for when you want it off. \*Be careful not to accidentally twist the dial and change the time you set in stage 1 when you're adjusting the needles!

3). Your boiler will now automatically come on at the times you have set it to, and turn off when you have pushed the needles out for when don't need the heating on. Remember that it takes about half an hour for the house to warm up after the heating kicks in (and even longer to cool down after it's turned off – a bit of a bonus) so if you get up at 7am and leave the house at 9am you may want to set the boiler to turn on at 6.30am and off at 8.30am

## Boiler Manuals:

Boiler manuals are very handy if you encounter a problem with your boiler, or if you just need some more detailed information as to how best to use its settings.

We have boiler manuals for all of the boilers in our properties on the Appliance Guides section of our website. Firstly, make a note of the boiler make and model – you can do this by just looking at the outside of your boiler and noting down what it says on it:

❖ i.e. Worcester Greenstar 123

Then head to the appliance guides on the Student Homes Site:

[Take Me to the Appliance Guides](#) (Press control & click).

If having read over this guide, you're still struggling with the central heating or the boiler in any way do get in touch to let us know.

(Contact Details Overleaf...)

# Help & Advice

You can contact us by:

Email: [student.homes@london.ac.uk](mailto:student.homes@london.ac.uk)

Or by Calling: 020 7664 4836

We hope you find this guide helpful. Any questions or problems don't hesitate to get in touch.

The Student Homes Team.

