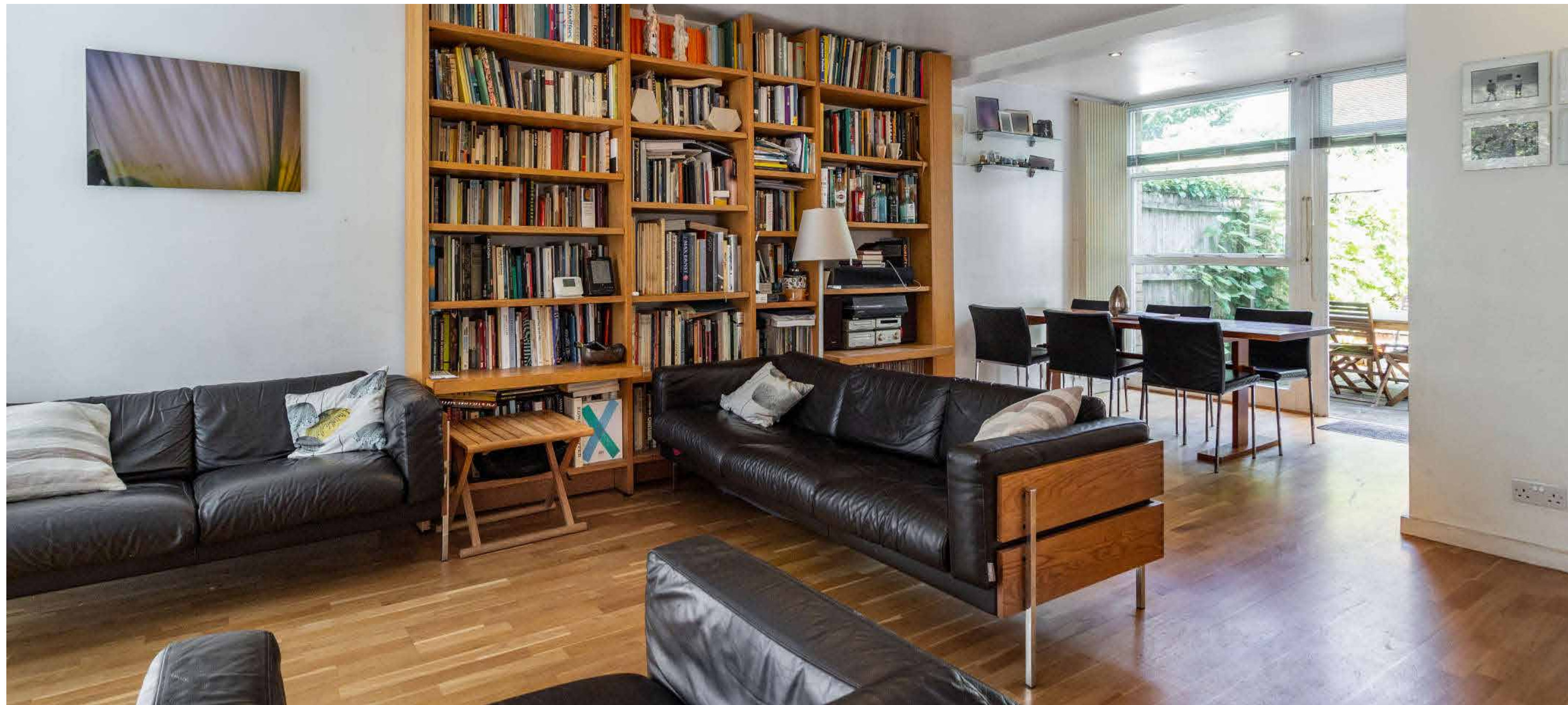




An Urban Oasis
Cambridge | Cambridgeshire

EH
EXQUISITE HOME



An Urban Oasis

The city of Cambridge, ancient, historic yet at the very forefront of modern technology is a remarkable place. Bisected by the River Cam, home of one of the oldest universities in the world, full of beautiful, ancient buildings and open green spaces, it is a wonderful place to live. One of the most attractive qualities of the city is its whole-hearted embrace of walking and cycling, with many safe bike routes set up for those who like travelling on two wheels (which seems to be most of Cambridge!) The city’s cultural life is second to none, with the annual Cambridge Folk Festival taking place at Cherry Hinton, a packed programme of entertainment at the Corn Exchange, Music in the Parks organised by the City Council, Bonfire Night celebrations on Midsummer Common and much more. With three cinemas, five theatres and any number of pubs, Cambridge is the city which never sleeps.

Perfectly Placed

Just seven minutes from the city centre on the Highsett development is this mid-Sixties property. Built very much in the style of the time, this is a house which must be viewed to appreciate its many amazing qualities. When the present owners first viewed it fifteen years ago, they turned to each other and said, “This is our house.” There were a number of reasons for this decision, as they recall. “We loved the light pouring in through the floor-to-ceiling windows, the peaceful atmosphere, the community green space which the neighbourhood enjoys and the wonderful location on the edge of the city centre. We’ve brought our children up here and one of our favourite things about it is the friendships they’ve made with the other children living in the development. It’s

designed as a neighbourhood community, with a beautiful green space for us all to use. We’ve hosted children’s parties there and all kinds of events. If we hadn’t had that space during lockdown, it would have been much harder. We all feel that it’s a great bonus, like an extra garden.”

Design With Character

The house is approached via a small courtyard, shaded by a pretty tree, which is ideal for storing bikes. The front door opens into the hall with a cloakroom off to the right. The entire ground floor is open plan with floor-to-ceiling windows at each end of the space. The ceilings are high, adding to the amazing feeling of spaciousness. Wooden flooring runs throughout and the space is divided into living and dining areas, which work very well for the present owners. “We’ve always enjoyed living in this open-plan way. In the summertime, we have the windows open so the breeze blows straight through the house and in winter, it’s warm and cosy. The dining area looks out over the garden, which is lovely and there’s no wall between that and the kitchen, which makes it very sociable.” The kitchen is compact and well laid-out. “We’ve got a gas hob, electric oven and extractor hood, stainless steel splashback and an integrated dishwasher. Quite a few of our neighbours have extended their properties out into the garden, which would be possible with the right planning permission. Others use the little shed in the garden (which has power) for their laundry and again, this is easy to do and a good way to save space.”





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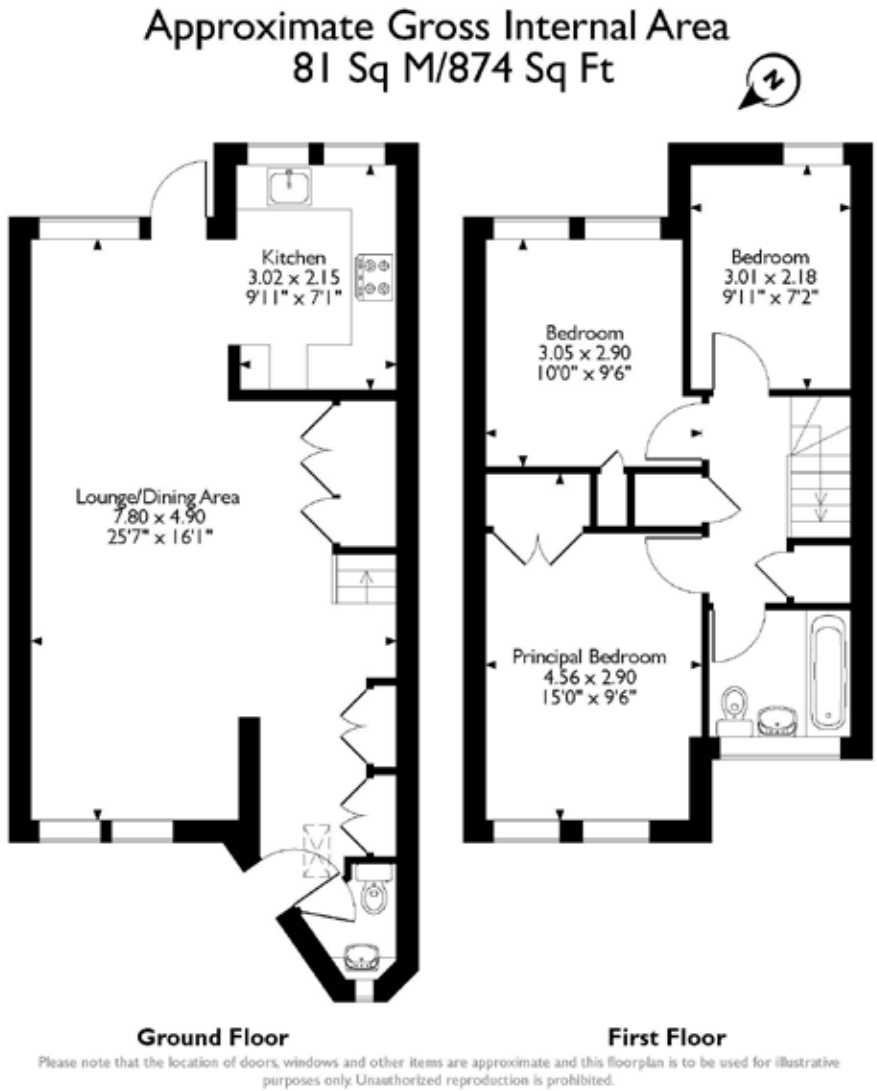
Space And Light

The staircase rises up from the open plan space to the first-floor accommodation, comprising three bedrooms and the family bathroom. The principal bedroom, benefits from natural light pouring through the two large windows. There is a very useful large built-in cupboard. The second bedroom looks out over the back garden and also has two large windows and a smaller built-in cupboard. The third bedroom would be the ideal nursery and is currently used as a child's bedroom. The three-piece family bathroom completes the accommodation on the first floor.

Seasonal Delights

The pretty back garden is quiet and private and has some charming surprises hidden within it. "The Highsett area used to be a large private property which was bombed during the war, hence the rebuilding in the sixties by the well known Span architects. Our back garden is where a large orchard was, and many of the original trees are still here. We have a mature apple tree as well as a very old vine which produces sweet Fragolino grapes, which are used for making dessert wine. There is a little shed with power which is part of the original build, a paved seating area, lots of well-established shrubs and a small lawn. We love sitting out there. You wouldn't believe you're so close to the city centre. All you can hear is birdsong."

Since the owners moved in, the neighbourhood has improved considerably. "Highsett is now regarded as city centre Cambridge and we have many more shops and offices than we used to. I can walk round the corner to the shop rather than driving to a supermarket, the station has been redeveloped and this area is now very sought-after. The schools are also excellent. Our children went to the local Catholic primary, within walking distance. There are several very good secondaries near by and Hills Road Sixth Form is brilliant. It's the ideal place to live as a family."



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