

YEAR 9 EXAM WEEK 2019

REVISION BOOKLET

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I. INTRODUCTION

This booklet is designed to help you prepare for the Year 9 Exam Week. You will have exams for the rest of your school career, so you need to start learning how to prepare successfully and get the highest grades you can.

The more organised you are, the easier it will be for you to revise. Many students find it difficult to get started and waste a lot of valuable time because they cannot find the notes they need or their original exercise books for each subject.

When you revise, it is important to use techniques that will help you remember facts. Do not just spend time reading and re-reading your notes in the hope that somehow you will take everything in.

You will need to make a real effort to learn what you are reading and that means working on your notes and using strategies that will help you to focus on each topic and pick out the key facts and fix them in your mind. The first part of this booklet offers a series of methods to aid you with revision. In the final section, Subject Leaders have provided a breakdown of what each exam will involve.

II. TEN TOP TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL REVISION

- Find a good place to work where you cannot be disturbed or distracted.
- Draw up a plan of what you are going to revise and when. Give yourself targets to achieve when revising.
- Don't work for too long at any one time and take regular breaks of 5-10 minutes during revision.
- Eat, sleep and live healthily during revision time and during the exams. Make sure you have breakfast on the day of exams.
- Try to vary the ways you revise, don't just sit reading a book. There are lots of ideas in this booklet to help you.
- Revise with a friend, talking to someone about a topic/problem often helps your memory.
- Test yourself (or get someone to test you) regularly without looking at your notes.
- Re-visit topics/subjects regularly to help you memorise them effectively.
- Mix up your weak and strong subjects when you revise.
- Make sure whatever revision you do you make it stick don't convince yourself you have revised by sitting in front of the TV with your book on your lap!

III. TIMETABLING YOUR REVISION

Organising how, where and when you are going to revise is very important and varies for everyone. Good advice is to write out a timetable which you can stick to no matter what the subject.

Warm up your brain

It is always a good idea to warm your brain up before you start to revise. Try some of these:

What If?	Invent A Name	It Does What?	Plus points, Minus
 ♦ The moon was made of cheese ♦ All the grass disappeared overnight ♦ Water was poisonous 	 A shampoo that instantly gave you curly hair A robot that takes your dog for a walk A pair of glasses which shows you what's happening behind you 	♦ Oxyputer♦ Kangastep♦ Aquadigger	points, Interesting points Everyone should wear a mood badge All children should adopt an elderly neighbour All cars should be painted blue

Set a target and time

Decide what you want to accomplish by the end of your study time and set little targets within this time. Try not to be unrealistic to avoid rushing and missing key points.

Set a reward

When you have set a target and time frame think of a reward you can enjoy when, and only when, these are met. This could be anything from chocolate, playing a computer game or meeting up with friends.

Choose a suitable place to revise

Only you know where you work best and won't be easily distracted, try to think of a place, or better a couple of places, where you will not be tempted to check Facebook, your phone or top up your drink, etc.

Plan in breaks

Plan breaks at sensible intervals when you can stretch your legs, get a drink and have a short change of scenery. Booking in your lunch break to have a shorter afternoon session than the morning session will make the time go faster.

How well did you do?

When your time is up look over your progress, have you accomplished all you set out to do? Is there anything you could add next session? Is it time for your reward?

IV. REVISION STRATEGIES

In the weeks before the exams, plan a revision programme. Make a list of the topics you need to revise for each subject and draw up a revision timetable. Use the revision programme sheets provided in this booklet to plan your study.

There are many ways to revise. A list of strategies is provided below followed by more detailed explanations of a number of specific strategies.

Index Cards

The main points can be written out on cards to carry round with you. You can even design coloured symbols on the back. The symbols can then be used as a trigger for your memory.

Post-its

Stick post-its with key ideas in your bedroom, hallway or around the house. They can be re-ordered on a flat surface.

Posters

Dramatic and colourful posters which summarise ideas visually can be placed at eye level, or above.

Review to music

An enjoyable, easy way to remember. Music with 60-70 beats per minute is supposed to be the best to help your long term memory.

Dramatic monologues

It can help you remember if you speak out loud, especially if the voices are outrageous.

Get a manager

Make an arrangement with someone (other than a teacher) to listen to, test or interrogate you at fixed times.

Highlighter pens

Practice picking out the main points with a highlighter. Ask your teacher if you're right then have another go with something else.

Against the clock

Make a game of answering as many questions as you can against the clock. Keep trying to beat your last score.

Prize bribes

Ask your parents to reward you with something good for reaching a target you set vourself.

Visualise it

Conjure up pictures in your mind of what you're revising.

Make it silly

Think up silly suggestions. Things that make us smile get remembered more easily.

Talk into your phone

This way you have to think about what goes in – and listen to what comes out.

Points of view

In partner revision, or by yourself, take one person's point of view – then swap over and argue the other side.

Interview

Set up an interview situation – but the questions are on what you're revising.

Walkabout

Help your memory by learning things in different places and unusual locations. Learn different chapters of a book, say, in different rooms. Or put index cards on the floor in different sequences and walk between them, memorising as you go.

Colour cards

Colour code your revision cards to help you.

Diagrams and flow charts

Tree charts, flow charts, spidergrams, split lists, sets – all are useful for organising your thinking.

Mnemonics

These make words out of the first initials, e.g. CHOPINS – Carbon, Hydrogen, Oxygen, Phosphorous, Iodine, Nitrogen, Sulphur.

Reading out loud

Saying things out loud can help you by making you slow down and organise your thoughts.

Test, cover and re-test

Learn something, cover it and test yourself – then check. Repeat until a genius.

Word games

Use word games, e.g. a Stalagmite MIGHT reach the ceiling, and a Stalactite holds TIGHT to the ceiling.

Buddy testing

Revise with a friend or group of friends. Some people do well when they bounce ideas off others.

Puzzles

Make logic games, anagrams or puzzles out of what you're revising e.g. codes, symbols or crosswords.

Poems

Make your subject matter into a rhythmical poem. Remember the rhythm – remember the facts!

Keep a revision journal or diary

For some, this allows a feeling of progress and a way to track your own progress.

Collage

Make a collage of your main facts, pictures, symbols, cuttings, quotations, formulae etc.

Journey round the known universe

Put key ideas, cards or summaries at eye level around your room, in sequence. Visit them in order – them imagine you're visiting them. What do they say?

Insist lists

Make lists of your MUST DO jobs – and carry them with you everywhere.

Command Words

So often time and marks are wasted by not reading a question correctly or by 'waffling', it is important that you recognize and understand the command words within the question before you attempt it to maximize your marks:

Describe	To provide a detailed account of a topic and give reasons for it.
Explain/Give Reason	To give a clear account of your knowledge and
For/Account For	understanding, or give reasons for why
	something is so.
Compare	To show how two, or more, things are different
•	or similar.
Analyse	To identify important features of a subject and
Allaryse	separate it into parts and examine how they
Clauff.	relate to one another.
Clarify	To give reasons for.
Criticise	To examine all the positive and negative aspects
	of a topic.
Demonstrate	To examine and give evidence to support an
	argument.
Discuss	To examine by giving positive and negatives.
Evaluate	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Evaluate	To discuss the worth, importance or usefulness
	of something by giving evidence to support your
	view.
Explore	To follow the development of something
	systematically from its origin.
Illustrate	To provide the main points, showing the main
	structure rather than great detail.
Interpret	To make compatible that which appears to be in
	conflict.
Justify	To give evidence which supports an argument or
_	idea. Show why decisions or arguments were
	made considering objections others may make.
Outline	To provide a detailed description with examples.
State	To express briefly and clearly.
Summarise	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Summarise	To give a concise account of the main points omitting detail.
Suggest	To expand your knowledge and understanding to
	a topic you are not necessarily expected to know
	well and to transfer other knowledge to give a
	sensible account.

Memory Techniques

There are a number of memory techniques which may help you to develop a more effective memory. However, before you set out remembering everything in sight, it is important to CONDENCE what you need to learn. CONDENCING your work and identifying KEY WORDS are the first step to committing it to memory.

Depending on the subject you are studying, these might be:

NAMES PLACES DATES FACTS/FIGURES SEQUENCES

When you have identified the keywords, <u>underline</u> them or mark them with a <u>highlighter</u>. It is a good idea to use several pens of different colours. You could even develop a system that uses different colours for different information



RED GREEN BLUE YELLOW ORANGE PEOPLE
PLACES
FACTS & FIGURES
QUOTATIONS
DATES

Spend about 10 - 15 minutes learning your list of keywords until you are confident you can recite the list (also that you know what each word means!)

Then, in the weeks leading up to your exam, spend about 5 minutes on 2 or 3 occasions to check through the list again. Nearer to the exam, check how well you have remembered the keywords. You should find it easy to recall the list again with only a few minutes revision.

Image Chains ...

The key to your memory is imagination. When you watch television, you expect to see a programme that captures your imagination. Unfortunately, the things you need to remember for your exams don't tend to possess the contents of a Hollywood blockbuster!

Image chains are an imaginative way to remember a list of random words by linking them to a story. The trick is to be imaginative and creative — the more so the better.

Use positive, pleasant images. The brain often blocks out unpleasant ones. Exaggerate the size of the important parts of the image. Use humour. Funny or peculiar things are easier to remember. Rude things are also easier to recall.

Symbols can be used. Bright, colourful images are easier to remember than dull ones. Try to use all the senses in your story by using sounds, smells, tastes, touch movements and feelings as well as pictures.



Example:

Spice Potato Dance Window Plant Finger Bin Wet Purple Log

One day a spicy purple potato was dancing on a log but it was wet because it had been raining and so he fell off and knocked the plant off the window with his finger and it fell in the bin.

Your turn...

Tree House Dog Pencil Cheese

Triggers and Mnemonics ...

Take the first letter of each word you need to remember and use them to make an imaginative sentence. You should use this type of memory strategy to help you remember things IN THE RIGHT ORDER. You have used this one before:





Naughty Never
Elephants Eat
Squirt Shredded
Water Wheat

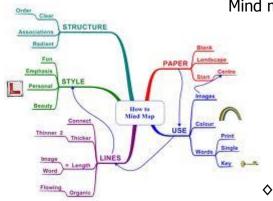
Try it yourself with the Continents of the World:

Europe	Е
Asia	Α
Africa	Α
Oceania	0
Antarctica	Α
North America	N
South America	S

Mind Mapping

This is a very effective way of representing large amounts of information in an attractive, easily-remembered way. You may have used a 'spider diagram' – which are very similar.

- ♦ Use a large piece of paper turned landscape.
- ♦ In the centre write a name of the topic that you are going to revise and add a simple illustration if you wish.
- ♦ Now draw lines like branches (coming out from the centre) to represent the main areas of the topic. Each of these can be illustrated or could be in different colour or a different type face.
- ♦ In turn, each of these could sub-divide into several more sections. Continue adding more branches until all the main information is on the mind map.
- The finished mind map could contain diagrams, names (and pictures) of important people, dates, places, etc. If it gets crowded, you could create a separate mind map for a particular section.



Mind maps start with a theme, have main ideas and are held together with details.

To make mind maps more memorable:

- ♦ Use doodles, pictures and diagrams.
 - ♦ Use different colours.
 - ♦ Use different type fonts.
 - ♦ Use humour (cartoons), etc.
- ♦ Design your own (don't just copy other peoples).

♦ CONDENCE.

Case Studies

Case studies may be the bain of your life, but you can guarantee you WILL have questions which will require both vague and detailed answers to show your understanding.

They help to bring a theory to life and make the real work more engaging. They illustrate key points, key messages and how things are done in practice, but there is a lot of detail to remember so to break this down, as well as mind maps, a case study card can be used.

For example:

Case Study:			
Topic:			
Section Of			
Syllabus:			
Location:	Town/City/Region:	Country:	Continent:
What?		What were th	e causes?
When?			
Why?			
Facts And Figures	5:		
What were the effects?		How can the or solved? By	changes be managed whom?
		What are the future?	options for the
Key Words:		•	
<u>-</u>			

Book:	
Author:	
Date:	Genre:
Main Characters and Relationships:	Synopsis:
Key Chapter Plot:	Author Techniques:
Key Quotes:	

Separate subjects could be printed on different coloured paper, or each corresponding section in the same colour font.

The Process of Learning

1) Don't know and I don't know that I don't know	I don't know stuff and I realise that I don't know it
Unconscious Incompetence	Conscious Incompetence
4) I know it and I can do it even without having to think about it Unconscious Competence	3) I am beginning to get it and when I concentrate really hard and I know I am beginning to get it Conscious Competence

Your turn:

Work with a partner and each take a turn to do this exercise:

Think of a time when you were very motivated to do something and it was a challenge and you achieved it (it could be school work, learning a sport, or something artistic).

How did you keep yourself motivated (wanting to stick to it and keep trying) so that you moved from box two to box three and box four?

How did you overcome any setbacks you experienced?



V. STRESS BUSTERS

"There is no such thing as failure – only feedback"

Everyone gets nervous before an exam and has different ways of dealing with it. How you respond to stress may impact on your attainment. Below are some suggestions to help you relax and concentrate both before and during the exam:

Visualisation

♦ Visit the exam room so you are familiar with its set up.
♦ Keep visualising the journey from your house to the exam room.

Relaxation

♦ Start from the toes: Clench for ten seconds and R-E-L-A-X.
 ♦ Move up the body, clenching and relaxing.

Breathing

Empty your lungs out and hold for as long as possible.Then breathe in slowly.

The Three Minute Breathing Space

Your breathing space provides a way to step out of automatic pilot and reconnect with the moment at hand.

Awareness

Bring yourself into the present moment by deliberately adopting an upright and dignified posture. If possible, close your eyes and ask: "What is my experience right now...in thoughts...in feelings...and in body?"

Acknowledge and register your experiences, even if it's unwanted.

Gathering

Then, gently redirect your full attention to your breathing, to each in and out breath as they flow, one after the other.

Your breathing can be used as an anchor to bring you to the present and help you to tune into a state of awareness and stillness.

Expanding

Expand the field of your awareness around your breathing, so that it includes a sense of body as a whole, your posture and facial expression.

VI. WORRY BUSTERS

Write down your concerns

This immediately helps you to feel calmer and more objective.

Ask the key question: Are these worrying thoughts helpful?

If they are drawing your attention to something that needs dealing with, then start the pattern for dealing with things in the next three points below:

Face the worst

What's the worst that could happen? Write it down. Now write down a few ways you'd cope if it did happen. Create a plan A and an alternative plan B, then think of the ways to make the worse less likely.

Get the facts

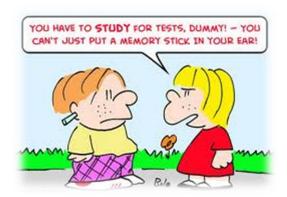
Worry can arise from confusion, or trying to make a decision without enough knowledge. Imagine you are collecting all the facts for someone else will help you stay calm and objective, or try to imagine you're a lawyer, whose job it is to stay impartial.

Analyses the facts once you have them

Decide what to do. DO IT!

Use your night thoughts

When you've a worry, your mind goes on thinking about it during the night. Lie still for a few minutes when you wake to give helpful ideas a chance to drift into your mind.



VII. THE DAY OF THE EXAMINATION

Do not try to do any revision on the day of the exam. Get to school on time – you do not want to start the exam feeling flustered because you arrived late. Try not to get drawn into conversations with your friends about what revision they have done and what questions might be asked in the exam. This would cause unnecessary panic.

In the exam read the instructions on the front of the paper to make sure you understand what you have to do. For example, you may not need to answer all the questions. When answering a question, re-read the question carefully to make sure you understand exactly what it is asking. Pace yourself with time. Do not spend too much time on any one question. Do not waste time giving too detailed an answer to questions which only carry a few marks. Finally, read through your answers at the end to check your spellings and any careless mistakes.

VIII. REVISION PLANNERS

Weekly Revision Planner

Week beginning:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
07.00							
07.00							
07.30							
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Preparing for examinations: What do I need to know?

The most important part about revising for examinations is to determine what you need to know and where you can find the information. Fill in the table below to help:

Examination subject:	Date of examination:	
Topic in Specification	Exactly what do I have to do/learn/know	Source of material/information (include page references)

Monthly / Daily Revision Timetable

Day	Date	Subject	Topic	Details
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
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	1	1

IX. SUBJECT INFORMATION

MATHEMATICS

What will the	One non calculator paper (1 hour)
examination	One calculator paper (1 hour)
involve?	One speed test (30 minutes)
Main topics for	Speed test - basic arithmetic and operations.
revision	All topics covered this year as part of the CIMT books 9A and 9B.
What can a student do to prepare?	Practise all methods thoroughly – don't just read a textbook. Use resources below and listen carefully to advice given by your teacher.
	Practice speed test on FROG (VLE).
Useful resources	The contents of the MEP textbooks are available online with other resources at www.cimt.plymouth.ac.uk
	Other links available on the school website and on FROG (VLE).

ENGLISH

What will the examination involve?	Two exams, each an hour long. 1 Pre-prepared Shakespeare question on whichever play is being studied. Closed book. 2 Poetry based on Keats' <i>Ode to Autumn</i> and Heaney's <i>Death of a Naturalist.</i> One of the poems will be printed on the paper.
	These are new year 9 exams which have been devised to help students adjust to the new GCSE.
Main topics for	Shakespeare text
revision	Named poems
	Your teacher will be giving you help in the preparatory lessons.
What can a student do to prepare?	Consolidate knowledge of the Shakespeare play by careful re-reading with notes.
	Learning quotations relevant to essay question.
	Revising various stylistic devices and their effects.
	Learning the poem that does not appear on the paper off by heart!
Useful resources	Actual texts and any notes your teacher has given you.

PHYSICS

What will the examination involve?	1 x 1 hour paper with a mix of short and long answers.
Main topics for revision	Matter, Atomic Structure and Energy.
What can a student do to prepare?	Use their class notes and review previous CATs to get used to the style of questions. Use the self-assessment checklists to ensure you have covered and understood everything from each topic alongside their revision mats for the topics and outcome sheets. Access FROG and complete the topic revision resources on the GCSE Paper 1 pages. Ensure that old examination questions on FROG (VLE) are completed and self-marked.
Useful resources	FROG, Kerboodle, BBC Bitesize and GCSEPod. The AQA website contains specimen papers and the specification.

BIOLOGY

What will the examination involve?	1 hour exam paper with structured GCSE questions.
Main topics for	Chapter 1 - cell structure and transport.
revision	Chapter 2 - cell division.
	Chapter 3 - organisation and the digestive system
	(including enzymes).
What can a student	Complete the learning grids, kerboodle activities, read and
do to prepare?	practise questions from online text book. Use checklists to
	ensure they have covered everything in their revision.
Useful resources	GCSEPod, GCSE Bitesize revision, kerboodle (has the
	online text book and numerous activities), AQA GCSE
	website for past exam questions and FROG (VLE).
	Freesciencelessons.co.uk.

CHEMISTRY

What will the examination involve?	1 x 1 hour paper with a mix of short and long answers (GCSE questions).
Main topics for revision	C1 Atomic Structure. C2 Bonding & Structure (ionic bonding and properties, metallic bonding and properties). C4 Chemical changes (term 2). C6 Rates (Term 1).
What can a student do to prepare?	Review lesson aims. Use the online Kerboodle textbook/activities, GCSEPod, FROG (VLE) and past exam questions. FROG has specific pages within the Year 9 area devoted to each topic; each topic has suitable external website links as well as resources linked to the student drive (such as past paper questions on that topic).
Useful resources	GCSEPod, GCSE Bitesize revision, kerboodle (has the online text book), AQA GCSE website for past exam questions and FROG (VLE).

GEOGRAPHY

What will the	1 hour
examination involve?	1 paper
	Short and long questions
Main topics for	Development
revision	China
	Glaciation
	Oceans
What can a student	Use textbook Geog.3
do to prepare?	Use exercise book
	Use revision sheet
	Make revision summary notes on topics
Useful resources	Geog.3 textbook
	Year 9 Geography site on FROG (VLE)
	BBC Bitesize

ART

Students complete a series of coursework tasks during the year. The end of year mark will be the highest mark achieved in one of these tasks.

HISTORY

What will the	A source usefulness question and a causation essay.
examination involve?	A factual knowledge test on topics from across the year.
Main topics for revision	WWI/WWII/Spanish Civil War/Stalin & Hitler/The Holocaust.
What can a student do to prepare?	Ensure they understand how to answer a source usefulness question and an essay question.
Useful resources	Exercise books.
	Factual knowledge tests.
	BBC Bitesize KS3 History. Link from the History page on FROG (VLE).

GERMAN

What will the examination involve?	Speaking, writing, listening and reading. Exact dates will be issued to students by their subject teachers.
Main topics for revision	All topics covered in year 9.
What can a student do to prepare?	Revise vocab lists and grammar points from the textbook and their exercise books.
	Revision papers.
Useful resources	Stimmt 3 – textbook
	www.languagesonline.org.uk
	linguascope.com

FRENCH

What will the	Speaking (done as CAT 2), writing, listening and reading.
examination involve?	Exact dates will be issued to students by their subject teachers.
Main topics for	All topics covered in Year 9.
revision	Studio 2 Unit 4 – where you live, meals, buying food, events like carnivals.
	<u>Grammar</u> : adjectives, comparatives, prepositions, boire and prendre, iI faut.
	<u>Studio 3 Unit 2</u> – healthy living, resolutions for living more healthily.
	Grammar: future tense, negatives, using all three tenses.
	Studio 3 unit 3 – professions, qualities needed in different jobs, future plans, what you used to be like.
	Grammar: modal verbs, conditional tense, imperfect tense.
What can a student do to prepare?	Revise vocab lists and grammar points from the online textbook and their exercise books.
	Write and revise draft paragraphs for the writing examination and learn vocabulary for the translation sections.
	Practise reading and listening on the online platform.
Useful resources	Pearson Active Learn online platform.
	Unit summaries issued during the year and exercise book.
	www.languagesonline.org.uk
	linguascope.com

MUSIC

What will the	One written and listening examination lasting 1 hour.
examination involve?	Section A will involve answering questions about short extracts of music taken from the set pieces/styles covered this year and general listening.
	Section B will be music theory questions.
Main topics for	The Elements of Music.
revision	Devices used in music (ground bass, ostinato, 4 chord trick).
	Instrumental groups (woodwind, brass, strings, percussion).
	Rhythm and metre notation.
	Pitch notation and treble/bass clef notation.
What can a student do to prepare?	Listen to different styles of music and try to talk about what you hear using the elements of music thinking grid.
	Listen to the set pieces/styles covered this year through FROG (VLE).
	Revise pitch, rhythm, metre, theory and notation.
Useful resources	CBBC 10 pieces website.
(books, websites	The ABRSM Theory Book 1.
etc.)	Ted Kirk's Theory worksheets.
	Online theory. (websites linked through Frog VLE).

COMPUTING

What will the examination involve?	One paper sat in lessons. 30 minutes.
Main topics for revision	IT software use Visual Basic Hardware and software HTML and web design Note: As this is a practical subject, the exam will only account for a proportion of their final grade - the majority of their mark is based on the folder of work.
What can a student do to prepare?	Use their folder to examine what they have done during the year. Make sure they are familiar with the skills and key words they have used.
Useful resources (books, websites etc.)	Folder and BBC Bitesize ICT R drive teacher resources available through FROG.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

What will the examination involve?	There will be one examination paper covering the three areas of DT; Food Technology, Resistant Materials, 3D Commercial products. In the exam, students are to select their two strongest areas of the three available to answer questions on. The questions will be a range of multiple choice, extended questions and some drawing/diagram tasks.
Main topics for revision	Food – The Eatwell plate, food hygiene, food safety, high risk foods, food contamination and healthy options.
	Resistant Materials - Metals, categories, names, properties, uses and key terminology.
	3D Commercial products – Fabrics and fibres, commercial requirements, sublimation and merchandise terminology, printing processes, quality control and environmental issues with the use of dyes.
What can a student	Revise all topics in their current exercise books.
do to prepare?	Revise using information from your current exercise books.
	Use available websites and text books.
	Ask your DT teacher for clarification of topics.
	Use of DT ICT rooms to update software knowledge at lunchtimes.
	Create mind maps to test knowledge of specific topics as well as question and answer each other on specific topics.
Useful resources	www.Technologystudent.co.uk
	Software – 2D Design (available in rooms 13 and 14 at lunchtimes).