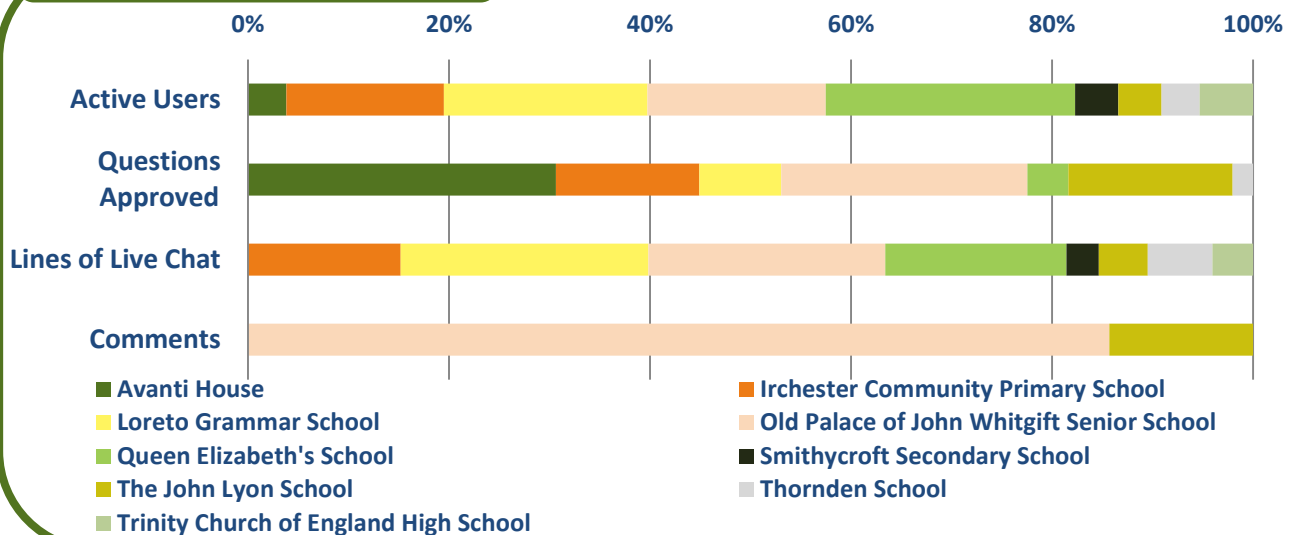




March 2015

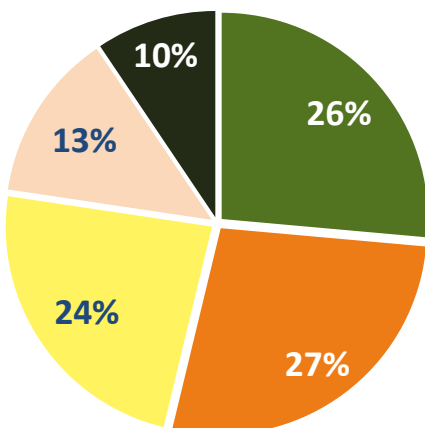
The Health zone was a themed zone consisting of engineers working in different areas of healthcare, for example researching implants for hips, developing new medicines or improving methods of fixing broken bones. This was one of the busiest zones for live chats and they were well attended by the engineers, with students often able to talk to four at a time. Louise and Naomi were especially good at engaging during these chats. The engineers seemed to get on very well with each other and interacted outside of the zones, over Twitter for example. It was notable that few questions were submitted through ASK in this zone.

School data at a glance

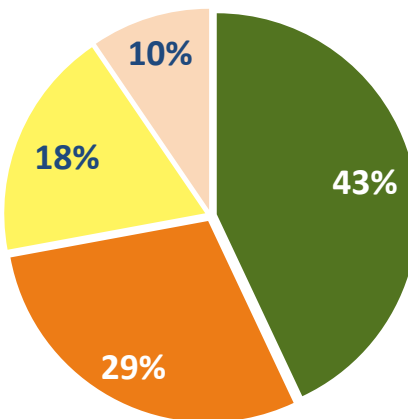


Engineer activity

Answers



Lines of live chat



Engineer	Profile views	Position
Naomi Green	839	Winner
Louise France	795	2nd
Rachel Pallan	559	3rd
Billy Hicks	509	4th
Urvashi Danookhdarree	438	5th

Key figures from the Health Zone, and the average of the March zones

Number of page views during the event (plus previous week and following weekend)

	HEALTH ZONE	MARCH '15 ZONES	2014
Total zone	15,394	15,703	13,210
ASK page	436	1,056	988
CHAT page	2,407	2,220	1,524
VOTE page	1,004	993	871

	HEALTH ZONE	MARCH '15 ZONES AVERAGE	2014 AVERAGE
Students	460	380	313
% of students active in ASK, CHAT or VOTE	87%	85%	77%
Questions asked	89	358	380
Questions approved	49	148	167
Answers given	106	334	427
Comments	21	23	64
Votes	328	280	280
Lines of live chat	6,196	4,733	3,624
Live chats	18	14	13
Average lines of live chat	344	333	247
Schools	9	8	8

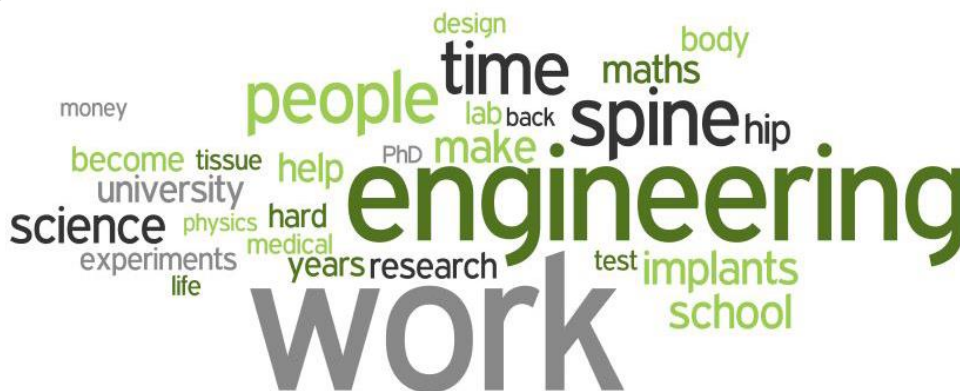
Popular topics

The live chats featured many questions about the human body and there were questions relating directly to the work and research of the engineers, for example Naomi was often asked about the spine. The live chats also saw a strong interest in the low diversity of gender of the engineering industry, and the career paths of the engineers.

Many of the questions in ASK were about the spine which is the area of research carried out by the winner Naomi. There were also many questions about being an engineer and what it is like e.g. "What to you is the best part of engineering? The thing that wants you to be an engineer for the rest of your life?". There were also some general science questions related questions such as "What causes lightning?" which suggests that students were using the opportunity to find out answers from someone they knew had scientific knowledge. The engineers tried hard to answer these questions that may have been outside their experience.



Keywords from live chats in the zone, size of the word represents its popularity





Keywords of questions asked in the zone, length of bar represents frequency of use



Example Questions (click for links)

“How does the vertebral column go through the inter-vertebral discs?”

“What is nanotubes?”

“What are the effects of a radioactive substance (like vast amounts of uranium) on the body?”

“Will doing a lot of sports affect your health?”

“What causes lightning?”

“How does a rocket get pushed up to space even though only fire comes of it?”

“Can you tell me how the digestive system works?”

“Why does gravity not affect us on earth, rather than in space? Could there ever be a way to float around on earth?”

“Scientists have discovered the DNA of mammoths on their bones and may be able to reclone mammoths and bring them back on Earth. How can they reclone mammoths from a swab of DNA?”

“In the future do you think you will be able to 3D print human organs?”

“What is the most interesting part of the spine?”

“Why are hexagons such an important shape in nanotubes and other science related things?”

“If you want to be an IT engineer then during the times where you have to choose your subjects, which subjects would be best?”

“Why are people with open wounds advised not to travel by planes?”

“What is the most scientific word u know?”

“Have you ever thought about combining your love of cake with your passion for creating new medicines - perhaps medicated victoria sponge??”

Examples of good engagement

There was an excellent rapport between the engineers and the students in the live chats during which they were able to dispel some stereotypes and address gender inequalities.

“Do you think that the engineering world is male dominated and if so is there any pressure on you?” –

Student

“Yes it is male dominated but it is getting better. I haven't felt pressured at any point or discriminated against” – Naomi, engineer

“Are many of the engineers that you work with women?” – Student

“Where I work there is a 50/50 split with men and women...this is quite rare for an engineering environment, but people are working really hard to get rid of the gender gap” – Louise, engineer

The engineers were very encouraging and had good practical advice for those who wanted to take their interest further:

“How can I get involved with engineering in the local community?” - Student

“At our University we run workshops for schools so you could try contacting your local university and see if they run similar projects that could come to your school” – Rachel, engineer

“You should look to see if there is a local Science hack club near you!! This is a club where you turn up and just make stuff (engineering and science) for a few hours! It's a really cool way to meet engineers and other people who like to do engineering as a hobby!” – Louise, engineer

Engineer winner: Naomi Green

Naomi's plans for the prize money: *“I would use the money to develop an activity called the Accident and Emergency Engineering Challenge for school students to design and test an implant for fixing a broken bone. It will take students through the whole engineering process, from identifying the problem and developing ideas to solve it, to building their idea and testing it to see if it works. I'd also like to buy a model of the spine which includes the different parts of an intervertebral disc, the vertebrae and spinal cord to show students why my research is important.”* Read Naomi's [thank you message](#).



Student winner: Welshiel471

For great engagement during the event, this student will receive a gift voucher and a certificate.

Feedback

We're still collecting feedback from teachers, students and engineers but here are a few of the comments made during the event...

“You're all very inspirational people!!!!” –

Olivia, student

“Your job sounds amazing!” – Harpelle, student



Louise France
@LouiseFrance4

@IAEGMOOH Favourite question so far... 'Do you consider yourself to be a science nerd?' ...Absolutely!! **#IAEUK**