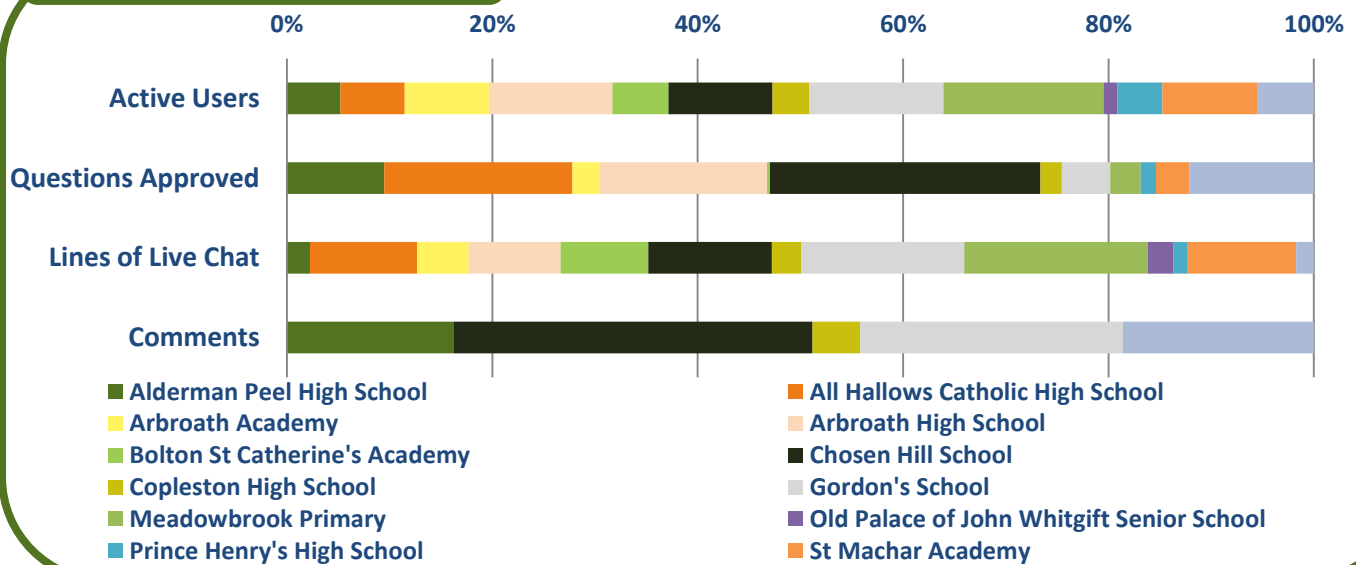




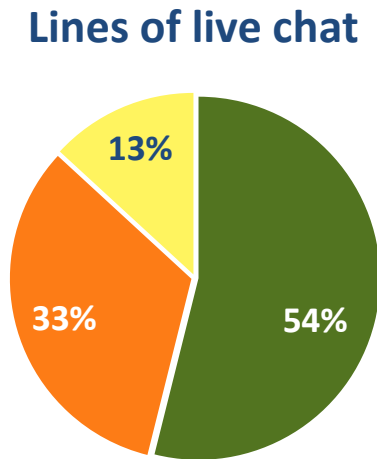
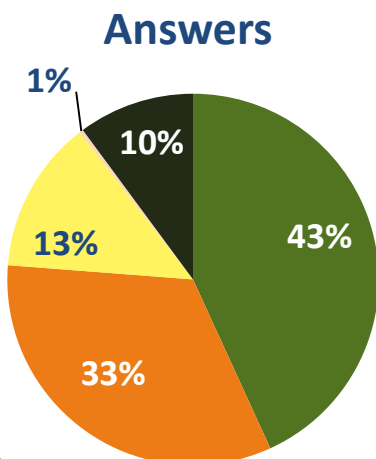
March 2016

The Metre Zone was a general zone and funded by the Royal Academy of Engineering, with five engineers from five different areas of engineering. Andrew is a Senior Engineer working in intelligent transportation systems, Ele is a bicycle Design Engineer for Brompton, Emma works in the design and construction of underground stations, Angela is a Postdoctoral researcher at King's College, London and Kene is a Systems/Reliability Engineer at a nuclear power station. This zone was one of the busiest of all the March zones and had a higher than average amount of questions approved and answers given, with students showing interest in topics such as different career paths and University courses. Most of the engineers interacted well with each other within the ASK section and live chats, with Andrew and Ele accounting for a majority of all activity by engineers.

School data at a glance



Engineer activity

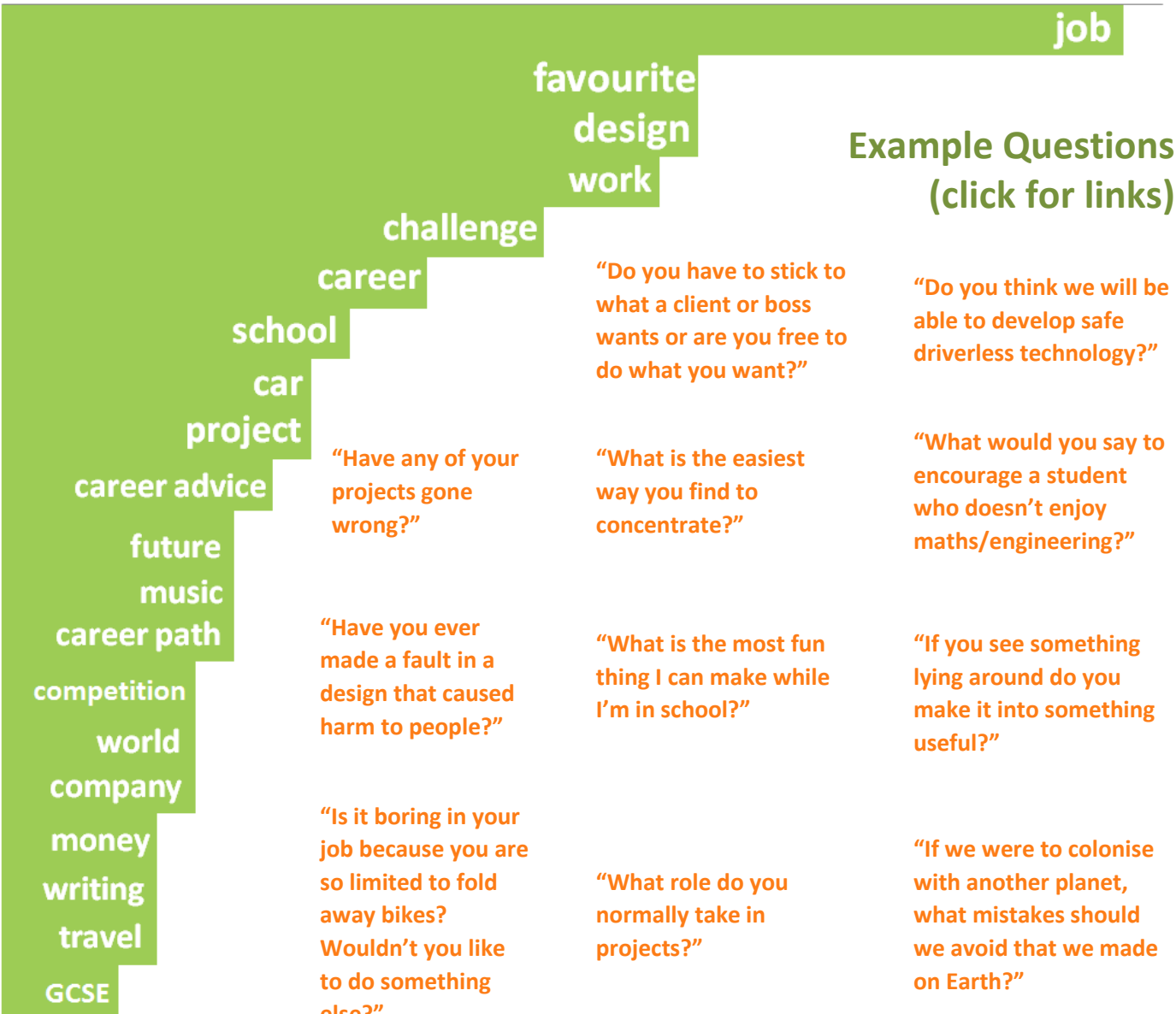


Engineer	Profile views	Position
Andrew Pigeon	637	Winner
Ele Rogers	515	2nd
Emma Bradley	471	3rd
Kene Ugochukwu (withdrew early)	574	4th
Angela Oliveira Pisco	315	5th



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

0 5 10 15 20 25 30



Example Questions (click for links)

- “Do you have to stick to what a client or boss wants or are you free to do what you want?”
- “Do you think we will be able to develop safe driverless technology?”
- “Have any of your projects gone wrong?”
- “What is the easiest way you find to concentrate?”
- “What would you say to encourage a student who doesn’t enjoy maths/engineering?”
- “Have you ever made a fault in a design that caused harm to people?”
- “What is the most fun thing I can make while I’m in school?”
- “If you see something lying around do you make it into something useful?”
- “Is it boring in your job because you are so limited to fold away bikes? Wouldn’t you like to do something else?”
- “What role do you normally take in projects?”
- “If we were to colonise with another planet, what mistakes should we avoid that we made on Earth?”
- “What has been your biggest sacrifice you have made to get where you are?”
- “As humans have we done more to destroy or save our planet?”
- “What is the benefit of a MEng over a BEng?”
- “Do you have a disease or mental illness?”
- “Do bad drawing skills affect engineering?”
- “Are you on a computer all day?”
- “What do you get out of engineering that you wouldn’t get from any other kind of work?”
- “What is your biggest professional regret?”

Examples of good engagement

Ele was especially good at engaging with the students in a thought provoking manner. There was some particularly interesting conversation between her and the students about women in engineering and women's career paths:

"What has been your biggest sacrifice to get you where you are?" – Student

"For a year I travelled up to York every weekend and was sleeping on a sofa bed in London during the week. It cost us loads of money in train tickets and extra rent, about 8hrs travel time a week, and we had to spend most of our time apart and missing each other. It was really rough, and I only would ever consider it because Brompton was such a big career opportunity. We both agreed I had to go for it!" – Ele, engineer

Following this a teacher spoke in a live chat about talking to the girls in class about this issue:

"@ele some of my girls had asked you questions about having to leave a man behind to pursue engineering jobs and it opened a great conversation here about why they thought they needed to ask that of you but not ask similar of Andrew. It really opened my eyes to their perceptions of their role in a relationship/modern society....fortunately I still have time to challenge their ideas" – Teacher

"That's very interesting - I'd say something to focus on is neither of us in the relationship has the "more important" career so we have to work out what is best for both of us. When Brompton came up, my partner agreed it was such a good opportunity for me we had to make it work. But I don't think it's wrong to prioritise your relationships over work if that is what you want" – Ele, engineer

Engineer winner: Andrew Pigeon

Andrew's plans for the prize money: *"With this money I am going to create some practical examples of what engineering 'is' in the different areas such as programming/software, electrical, chemical, structural, mechanical engineering etc. then take them into schools. When I was in school I knew that I was interested in technology and what I thought engineering was however there weren't many practical exercises or examples of the different disciplines available, which may have inspired me to go into a specific sector."*

Read Andrew's [thank you message](#).



Student winner: 523mete43

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...

"thank you very much engineers for your time you were very good. APPLAUSE!!" – Student

"Engineering is certainly a profession which has captivated interest...Thank you again for the opportunity, it's one I would definitely recommend and repeat!" – Teacher

"Our pupils are buzzing about it and on the back of the chats with you we are bringing in local engineers to talk to them next week" – Teacher