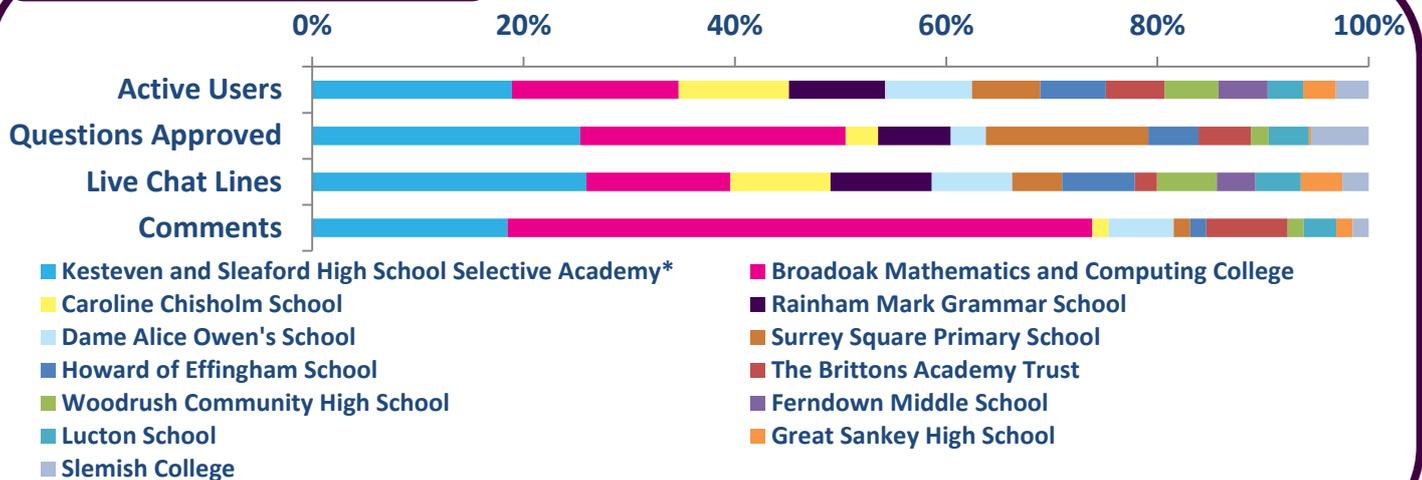




June 2016

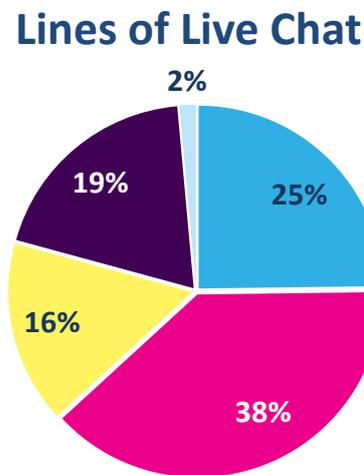
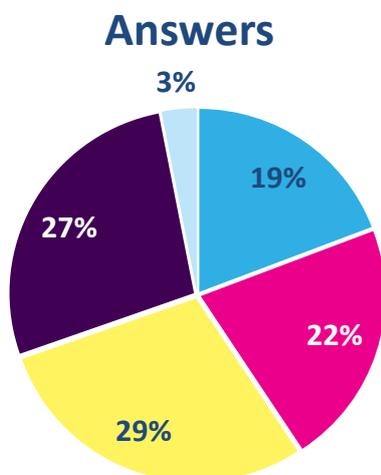
This zone was a general science zone funded by the Wellcome Trust. Stuart works for the NHS and looks at the DNA of people in hospital to work out why they are ill, Rob is a Teaching Fellow who uses maths to investigate how cells work, Maheen is a PhD student who uses brain imaging to understand how babies brains develop, Euan works with lasers and is trying to build a quantum computer from particles of light, and Deborah analyses food samples to see if they are genuine or counterfeit. The zone had a higher than average number of questions approved and the highest number of comments compared to all the other zones in June's event.

School data at a glance



* Widening participation schools, as defined on our blog post at <http://about.imascientist.org.uk/2016/widening-participation-2016>

Scientist activity

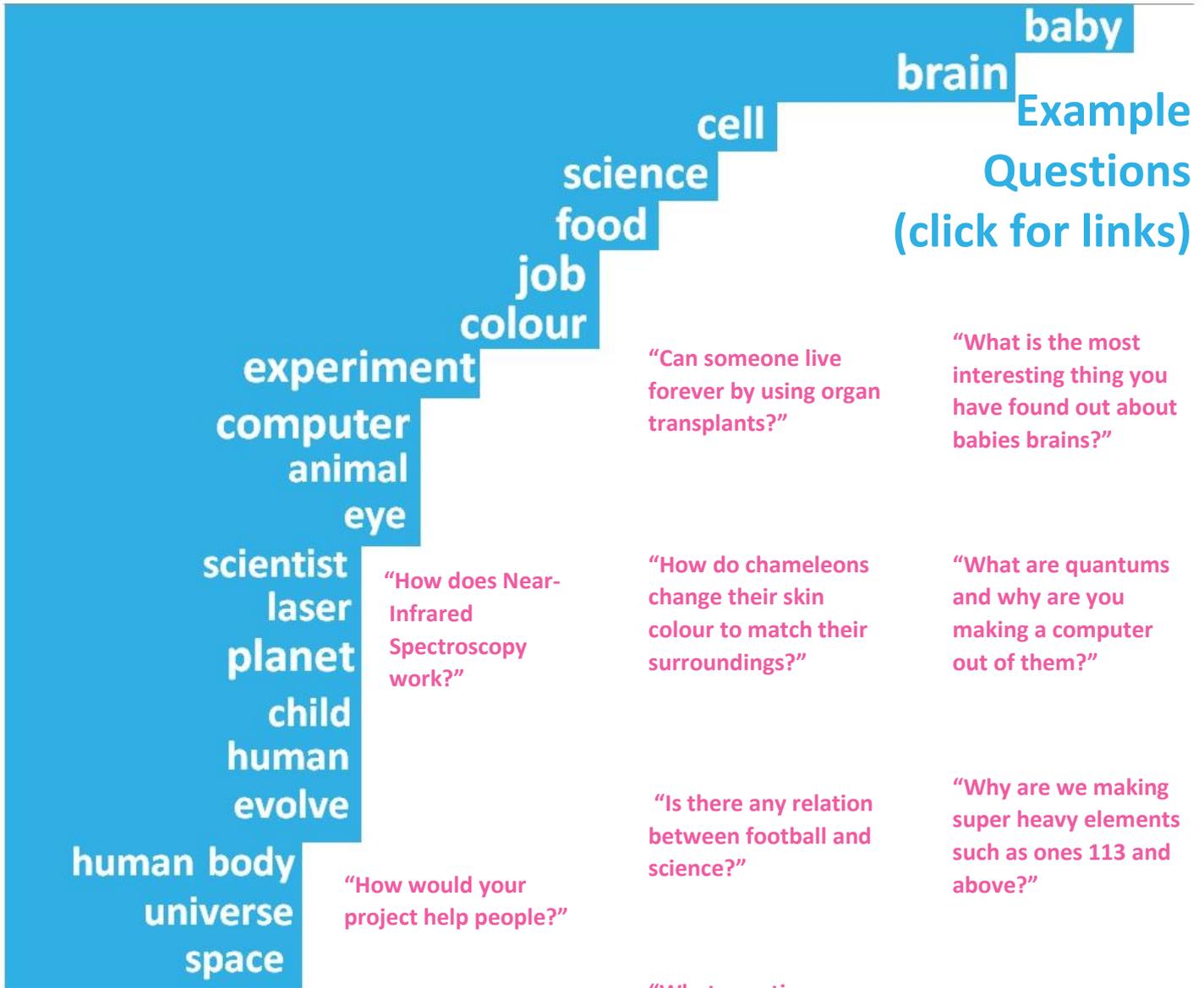


Scientist	Profile views	Position
Euan Allen	974	Winner
Rob Stanley	1,112	2nd
Maheen Siddiqui	917	3rd
Deborah Prunty	740	4th
Stuart Cannon	1,057	5th



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

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20



Example Questions (click for links)

- “Can someone live forever by using organ transplants?”
- “What is the most interesting thing you have found out about babies brains?”
- “How do chameleons change their skin colour to match their surroundings?”
- “What are quantum and why are you making a computer out of them?”
- “Is there any relation between football and science?”
- “Why are we making super heavy elements such as ones 113 and above?”
- “What question or challenge were you setting out to address when you started your work?”
- “How did humans evolve from cells to apes?”
- “Why do our bodies grow but our eyes do not?”
- “What did you do with all the counterfeit food and drink? Did you eat it? I would of!”
- “Why do you use maths to investigate cells?”
- “Why does light ruin your experiment?”

“How many cells are there in the human body?”

“Do you use a lot of coding to make these amazing baby brains?”

“Why do our bodies grow but our eyes do not?”

“What did you do with all the counterfeit food and drink? Did you eat it? I would of!”

Examples of good engagement

Students really engaged with the scientists' areas of work, asking some interesting and specific questions.

"What is an average baby learning phase?" – **Student**

"They say that the first 1000 days of a baby's life is the most important for development and they learn a lot during this period of time! But they are continuously learning things all the time so it's hard to say if there is one single phase...our brains are always developing... even until our 20's" – **Maheen, scientist**

Students were comfortable in chats and often asked for advice in regards to course choices.

"Do you think I could study psychology in college even though I haven't done it in secondary school??" – **Student**

"Yeah, I don't think that would be that unusual. If you have studied other sciences (particularly biology) you'll be able to show you're capable of learning psychology." – **Rob, scientist**

"Yes, not all schools offer it as a subject. Why don't you look up the entry requirements and see what you'd need?" – **Deborah, scientist**

"Thanks! I've been interested in it for a while and I was worried I won't be able to study it in more depth" – **Stuart, scientist**

"Don't worry about that! For a long time I thought I could only do a specific thing because of my subjects...but I was able to move from the maths field into biology quite easily! Lots of things are possible" – **Maheen, scientist**

Scientist winner: Euan Allen

Euan's plans for the prize money: *"I want to buy equipment which allows me to go in to school to teach students about how animals can control light to their advantage. The money would pay for a set of small USB microscopes and some butterfly samples (and other samples of animals that do similar things). I would then love to take these into schools so that the students can learn about these amazing animals, how they interact with light, and how we can use that to make useful things!"* Read Euan's [thank you message](#).



Student winner: Nintega21

For great engagement during the event, these students will receive a gift voucher and certificates.

Feedback

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

"I did not like science but since i have gone onto this website i have started to like it more" – **Student**

"You can often get swept up in research and forget that really it is the public that are funding research, and they have a right to know (and should know) why it is beneficial to them. It was great to have a reminder of this." – **Scientist**