Knowledge and perceptions

Engineering and technology jobs offer a wide range of opportunities to young people. More can be done to improve knowledge and perceptions of these careers amongst both teachers and students.

Young people

72% think engineering is a career that allows people to be creative

36% say they know a fair amount about what engineers do

32% say they know a fair amount about what those working in tech do

35% of young people are interested in a career that will help reduce the impact of climate change

64% of young people are interested in climate change issues

21% of students said Energy Quest motivated them to find out more about engineering jobs

79% of The Big Bang Fair attendees said they knew more about what engineers do after The Fair. **75%** wanted to find out more about STEM jobs. **65%** were inspired to consider a job in STEM.
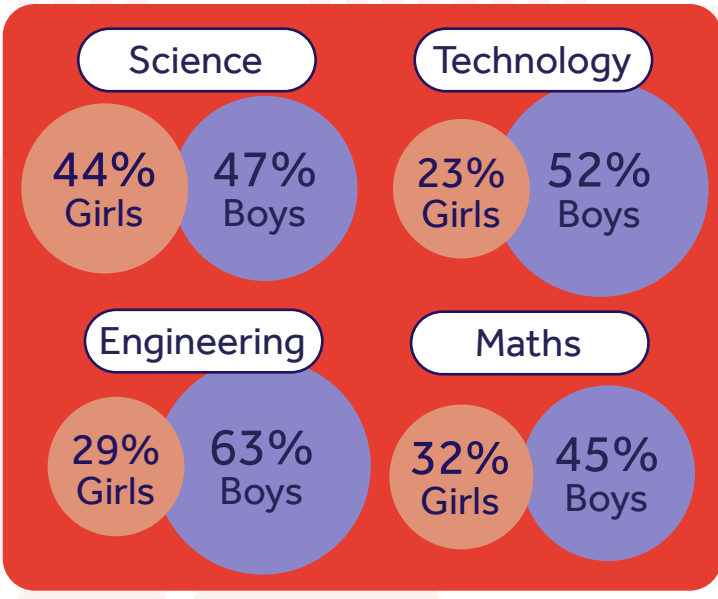
46% interested in an engineering career

38% interested in a tech career

25% think **engineering fits well with who they are**

12% of **girls** say being an engineer fits well with who they are compared with 38% of boys
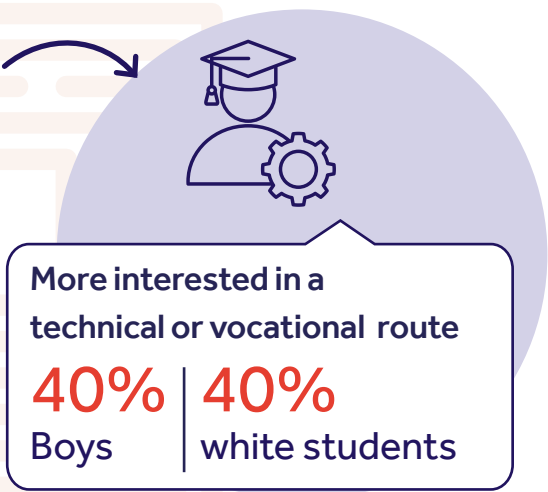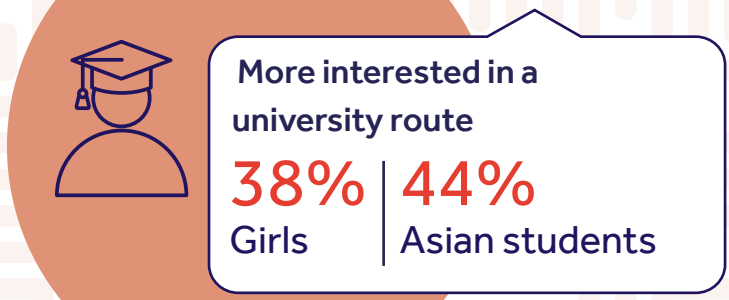
30% think engineering is suitable for them

16% of **girls** think engineering is **suitable for them** compared with 44% boys

Interest in STEM careers

Science
44% Girls | 47% Boys

Technology
23% Girls | 52% Boys

Engineering
29% Girls | 63% Boys

Maths
32% Girls | 45% Boys

36% of **girls** say science is **not for them**

Young people interested in an engineering career prefer a technical or vocational route (36%) compared to a university route (28%)

More interested in a university route
38% Girls | **44%** Asian students

More interested in a technical or vocational route
40% Boys | **40%** white students

Teachers

Teachers are equally likely to recommend an apprenticeship or university route **(36%)**, another technical/vocational route **(4%)**

53% feel **confident advising** their students of vocational and technical pathways into engineering

85% of STEM teachers **recommend a career** in engineering

92% said engineering is important or very important in the UK achieving **net zero by 2050**

76% of teachers delivering Big Bang at School said it made them more confident to speak to students about STEM careers

82% said it motivated them to suggest STEM careers to students

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