

Supplementary Materials: Table S1 *List of Participants*

Alex	St Andrews	BSc Computer Science	Second year
Agnes	Glasgow	BSc Computer Science	Final year
Carolyn	UCL	MSc Machine Learning	Final year
Ruth	City	BSc Computer Science	First year
Caroline	UCL	MSc Human Computer Interaction	Final year
Vicky	City	BSc Computer Science	First year
Caitlin	City	BSc Computer Science	First year
Antonia	UCL	MSc data science (pt)	First year
Anne	Glasgow	BSc Computing Science	First year
Leila	UCL	BSc Computer Science	Final year
Dua	City	MSc Human Computer Interaction	Final year
Alys	UCL	MSc Web science	Final year
Shirin	UCL	BSc Computer science	First year
Thalia	City	MSc Human Computer Interaction	Final year
Ornella	City	BSc Software engineering	Final year
Lizzy	Glasgow	BSc Computing Science	Final year
Svetlana	City	BSc Computer Science	Second year
Sonia	QMUL	MSc Information science and computing	Final year
Tsemaye	City	BSc Computer Science	Final year
Shona	QMUL	BSc Computer Science	Second year
Mariyam	QMUL	BSc Computer Science with Business	Final year
Bianca	St Andrews	BSc Computer Science	Second year
Sophie	UCL	BSc Computer Science	Final year

Notes: pt = part-time student; UCL = University College London; QMUL = Queen Mary University of London

Table S2

Final Template of Themes

1. Feeling stupid	
1.1.	Pre-existing factors
1.1.1.	<i>It's a difficult subject</i>
1.1.2.	<i>The men have more experience</i>
1.1.3.	<i>The men have more confidence</i>
1.2.	Assumptions of female inferiority
1.2.2.	<i>People assume that women are not cut out for technology</i>
1.2.3.	<i>Women are told they are stupid</i>
1.2.3.	<i>Female achievements are undervalued</i>
1.3.	Women do not get the right support
1.3.1.	<i>Self-directed pedagogical culture</i>
1.3.2.	<i>Women do not feel they can ask questions</i>
1.4.	Impact on motivation
1.4.1.	<i>Some were motivated to prove themselves</i>
1.4.2.	<i>Some withdrew</i>
1.4.3.	<i>Low confidence has an impact on career prospects</i>

2. Identity fit is not problematic	
2.1	Many do fit in on their course
2.1.1.	<i>Similar interests</i>
2.1.2.	<i>A diverse cohort</i>
2.1.3.	<i>A large cohort</i>
2.2.	Not fitting in on the course does not matter

3. Enablers	
3.1.	People who make it seem possible
3.1.1.	<i>Role models</i>
3.1.2.	<i>Male champions</i>
3.2.	Early exposure
3.2.1.	<i>Realising it is an option</i>
3.2.2.	<i>Seeing it might be fun</i>
