Voluntary Product Accessibility Template® (VPAT®)

WCAG Edition

Version 2.4

Cambridge University Press and Assessment Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(VPAT® Version 2.4)

Name of Product/Version: Cambridge Core

Report Date: 1st March 2022

Product Description: Cambridge Core is a platform for Cambridge University Press's academic content.

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Evaluation Methods Used:

The website is measured against the Web Accessibility Initiative's (WAI) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 (WCAG 2.1) to give an accurate feedback on any non-compliant issues. To attain our standard accreditation all A and AA criteria must be achieved.

To give a more accurate review of the website we and our 3rd party auditors (the Digital Accessibility Centre) employ two main testing processes.

The first is a manual technical audit using automated tools and the second a dedicated team of user testers with differing disabilities test using a range of adaptive technologies. The findings of both are combined to give more accurate feedback on the website.

By using the testing team in conjunction with an automated procedure a more accurate set of results are made available.

The resulting report combines technical auditing with disabled user feedback. The test does not list each specific area that requires change but highlights patterns of problems where they exist. Each section of the report includes a qualifying statement of pass, fail or recommendation to help developers quickly identify which parts of the website need the most urgent attention.

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
[Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0](#)	Level A (Yes / ~~No~~) Level AA (Yes / ~~No~~) Level AAA (~~Yes~~ / No)
[Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1](#)	Level A (Yes / ~~No~~) Level AA (Yes / ~~No~~) Level AAA (~~Yes~~ / No)

Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

- **Supports**: The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.
- **Partially Supports**: Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.
- **Does Not Support**: The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.
- **Not Applicable**: The criterion is not relevant to the product.
- **Not Evaluated**: The product has not been evaluated against the criterion. This can be used only in WCAG 2.0 Level AAA.

WCAG 2.1 Report

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.x Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the [WCAG 2.1 Conformance Requirements](#).

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)	Partially Supports	Examples of supports: • Images include descriptive alternative text. • Form buttons have a descriptive value. • Form inputs have associated text labels. Examples of exceptions: • Older archive content reproduced from original printed sources is presented in the form of scanned PDFs with accompanying background text, produced using OCR (Optical Character Recognition). • Some HTML content tables are presented as images. • Some HTML content images don't include alt tags but most include adjacent description. • Some marketing images contain text which is not included in the text alternative. • Some third party plugins may not include descriptive text alternatives.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Does not support	Examples: • A descriptive text transcript is not provided for web-based audio. • A text or audio description is not provided for web-based video-only.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Partially Supports	Examples of supports: • Synchronized captions are present for some videos.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		Examples of exceptions: • Captions may not be present for some content supplementary videos.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Does not support	Examples: • A descriptive text transcript / audio description audio track is not provided for web-based video.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Partially Supports	Examples of supports: • Headings and lists are used for hierarchical content structure. • Pages are usable with styles disabled. • Text labels are associated with form input elements. • Required form fields are clearly marked. Examples of exceptions: • Some PDF documents are lacking the appropriate structure for screen reader users to interact with the document. • There are third party widgets on the site which may not have the appropriate semantic html structure to enable users of assistive technology to interact with the widgets.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • The reading and navigation order (determined by code order) is logical and intuitive.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Instructions and content do not rely upon shape, size, visual location or sound.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Colour is not used as the sole method of conveying content or distinguishing visual elements. • Links in general are identified using colour as well as underline (and a hover over effect).

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Cambridge Core website does not contain any auto-playing audio.
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Partially Supports	Examples of supports: • All page functionality is available using the keyboard on most of the platform. • Access keys are not present (to avoid any system and browser compatibility issues). Examples of exceptions: • Some Core Share functionality is not accessible using the keyboard. • Some third-party plugin functionality may not be fully accessible to keyboard.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • There are no keyboard traps on the website.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 only)	Not Applicable	
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • The website does not contain any time limits.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Cambridge Core website does not contain any moving, blinking, scrolling, or auto-updating content.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • The website does not contain any flashing content.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Skip to content link is present to bypass repeating elements (e.g. navigation) on all pages. • Heading structure is marked up to aid assistive technology navigation.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Pages have a descriptive and informative page title.
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • The navigation order of links, form elements, etc. is logical and intuitive.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • The purpose of links (and buttons) can be determined from the link text alone where possible. • Where not possible, additional text is provided for screen readers, e.g. using aria-label/aria-labelledby.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 only)	Not Applicable	
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 only)	Supports	Examples: • Non-essential down-event (e.g. onmousedown) is avoided.
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 only)	Supports	Examples: • The accessible name (label, alternative text, aria-label, etc.) of a component includes visible label text of that component.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 only)	Not Applicable	
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • The language of the page is identified using the HTML lang attribute (<html lang="en">).
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • No page elements trigger changes in context when they receive focus.
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Where controls trigger changes in context, users are notified of this.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Required form elements are clearly marked. • Form validation errors are intuitive and accessible. The errors

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		are clearly identified (by proximity of the message and a highlight).
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Labels, cues, and instructions for required interactive elements are provided via instructional text, examples and properly positioned form labels.
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A)	Partially Supports	Examples of supports: • Significant HTML validation/parsing errors are avoided. • Web pages have complete start and end tags and are nested according to specification. Examples of exceptions: • Some third parts applications may not be compatible all browsers • Third party applications may have parsing errors such as duplicated ID's
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)	Supports	Examples: • Markup in general follows the HTML/XHTML specifications (e.g. form elements, links, etc.). • Aria-label/aria-labelledby are used to provide/link names for controls.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Does not support	Examples: • Some video content may not include an audio description or media alternative. Cambridge University Press are looking into requesting this from authors and making this part of our policy.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	Examples: • The website is fully responsive and works well in portrait and landscape modes.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	Examples: • Input fields have an appropriate autocomplete attribute defined where applicable.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • The colour contrast is sufficient (4.5:1) throughout the website.
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • The page is readable and functional when the text size is increased to 400%.
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Partially Supports	Examples of supports: • Images of text are not used where possible. Examples of exceptions: • Some marketing images contain text which may not be included in the alternative text.
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	Examples: • The page is readable and functional when

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		the text size is increased to 400% without horizontal scroll bars.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	Examples: • The non-text colour contrast is sufficient (3:1) throughout the website.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	Examples: • Elements that contain text use relative sizes so no loss of content or functionality occurs when the user adapts different spacing.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	Examples: • Content presented on hover or focus can be dismissed. • The new content remains visible until the pointer or keyboard focus is moved away.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • Multiple ways are available to find other pages on the site, e.g. navigation, search, site map, crumb trail, etc.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • Headings are descriptive. • Labels are descriptive.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • All elements which are under the control of Cambridge Core have a visible focus state indicator.
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • The language of page content that is in a different language is identified using the lang attribute.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • Navigation is consistent throughout the website.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • Elements that have the same functionality across multiple web pages are consistently identified (e.g. search box looks the same and uses the same identification throughout).
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • Information about how to correct input errors is provided.
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Supports	Examples: • Facility for the user to review and correct data before submitting it is provided.
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	Examples: • Important status messages are announced by screen readers.