

Voluntary Product Accessibility Template® (VPAT®)

WCAG Edition

Version 2.5

Cambridge University Press and Assessment Accessibility Conformance Report WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5)

Name of Product/Version:

Higher Education from Cambridge University Press

Report Date:

2nd April 2025

Product Description:

Higher Education from Cambridge University Press offers the highest quality content and resources for leading authors to instructors and students, supporting successful teaching and learning journeys in today's rapidly changing educational environment.

Contact Information:

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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 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 is made available. This 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.

Notes:

Cambridge University Press & Assessment Academic teams are currently undergoing major project to ensure any newly created content is accessible and compliant with the latest version of WCAG. Specific areas of improvements of our content include alternative text for all descriptive

images (including long descriptions for complex images), captions and descriptive transcript for video/audio content, semantic mark up of content tables, etc. This will be followed by addressing any accessibility issues with older content.

We are also working towards including accessibility metadata related to individual pieces of content.

We have also reported any 3rd party accessibility issues to the providers.

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) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No) |
| Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 | Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No) |
| Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2 | Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (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 only be used in WCAG Level AAA criteria.

WCAG 2.2 Report

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.2 Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the [WCAG 2.2 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Most Images include descriptive alternative text.• Most form button labels have a descriptive value.• Form inputs have associated text labels. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some HTML content tables are presented as images.• Some HTML content images don't have a descriptive alternative text.• Some Cambridge Spiral eReader button labels are not descriptive. |
| 1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A) | Does not support | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A descriptive text transcript and audio descriptions are not provided for all resources audio and video. |
| 1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A) | Partially Supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Instructional videos have instructions embedded in the video. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Captioning is not provided for all resources audio and video. |
| 1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A) | Does not support | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A descriptive text transcript and audio descriptions are not provided for all resources audio and video. |
| 1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A) | Partially Supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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: |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|---|--------------------|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are third party widgets on the site which do 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reading and navigation order (determined by code order) is logical and intuitive. |
| 1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions and content do not rely upon shape, size, visual location or sound. |
| 1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). |
| 1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The website does not contain any auto-playing audio. |
| 2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A) | Partially Supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All page functionality is available using the keyboard in most areas. Access keys are not present (to avoid any system and browser compatibility issues). Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Cambridge Spiral eReader functions may not be available via keyboard navigation. |
| 2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A) | Partially Supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no keyboard traps in most areas of the website. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Cambridge Spiral eReader pages may not be available from the keyboard only navigation. |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|--------------------|--|
| 2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The website does not have any character key shortcuts. |
| 2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The website does not contain any time limits. |
| 2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The website does not contain any moving, blinking, scrolling, or auto-updating content. |
| 2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The website does not contain any flashing content. |
| 2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. |
| 2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pages have a descriptive and informative page title. |
| 2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A) | Partially Supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The navigation order of links, form elements, etc. is logical and intuitive. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The focus is not correctly managed in the date picker calendar component. |
| 2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Cambridge Spiral eReader users can navigate to different pages using gesture, button, slider or page number. |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|--------------------|---|
| 2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users can use CTRL+Z to undo form entries. |
| 2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site does not include functionality that is triggered by moving devices. |
| 3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The language of the page is identified using the HTML lang attribute (<html lang="en">). |
| 3.2.1 On Focus (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No page elements trigger changes in context when they receive focus. |
| 3.2.2 On Input (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where controls trigger changes in context, users are notified of this. |
| 3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 only) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help and contact details occur in the same order relative to other page content throughout this website. |
| 3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required form elements are clearly marked. Form validation errors are intuitive and accessible. The errors are clearly identified (by proximity of the message and a highlight). |
| 3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A) | Partially Supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labels, cues, and instructions for required interactive elements are provided via instructions, examples and properly positioned form labels. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Cambridge Spiral eReader interactive elements labels are not correctly read out by some mobile screen readers. |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|--------------------|---|
| 3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 only) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information previously entered by or provided to the user is not required to be entered again in the same process. |
| 4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For WCAG 2.0 and 2.1, the September 2023 errata update indicates this criterion is always supported. See the WCAG 2.0 Editorial Errata and the WCAG 2.1 Editorial Errata. |
| 4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A) | Partially Supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pattern values and placeholder text in the date picker component do not match the visual format The input fields use the input type (date) which has limited support for voice activation users using Dragon software. There are third party widgets on the site which do not have the appropriate semantic html structure to enable users of assistive technology to interact with the widgets. |

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|--------------------|--|
| 1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA) | Not Applicable | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The website does not contain live multimedia. |
| 1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA) | Partially supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not all videos contain audio descriptions. |
| 1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The website is fully responsive and works well in portrait and landscape modes. |
| 1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Input fields have an appropriate autocomplete attribute defined where applicable. |
| 1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA) | Partially supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The color contrast is sufficient (4.5:1) in majority of the website. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cambridge Spiral eReader may have minor contrast issues, e.g. icons. |
| 1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA) | Partially supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The page is readable and functional when the text size is increased to 400%. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zooming on mobile devices is disabled in Cambridge Spiral eReader. |
| 1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Images of text are not used, wherever possible. |
| 1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA) | Partially supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The page is readable and functional when the text size is increased to 400% without horizontal scroll bars. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some elements in Cambridge Spiral eReader don't reflow correctly when zoom function is utilised with some page content being |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|---|--------------------|---|
| | | truncated. |
| 1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA) | Partially supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The color contrast is sufficient (4.5:1) in majority of the website. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cambridge Spiral eReader may have some minor contrast issues, e.g. icons. |
| 1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content presented on hover or focus can be dismissed. |
| 2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) | Partially supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headings are descriptive. Labels are descriptive. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are third party widgets on the site which do not have the appropriate semantic html structure to enable users of assistive technology to interact with the widgets. Some Cambridge Spiral eReader interactive elements labels are not correctly read out by some mobile screen readers. |
| 2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA) | Partially supports | Examples of supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All elements which are under the control of Higher Education have a visible focus state indicator. Examples of exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are third party applications and widgets which may have elements that do not have a visible focus state indicator. |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|---|-------------------|--|
| 2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focused components are not obscured by other page components. |
| 2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Functionality that requires dragging movement is not present on most of the website. In Cambridge Spiral eReader users can navigate to different pages using gesture, button, slider or page number. |
| 2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The size of the target for pointer inputs is at least 24 by 24 pixels. Where this is not possible, sufficient spacing is applied around the target. |
| 3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The language of page content that is in a different language is identified using the lang attribute. |
| 3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Navigation is consistent throughout the website. |
| 3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information about how to correct input errors is provided. |
| 3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA) | Supports | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facility for the user to review and correct data before submitting it is provided. |
| 3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only) | Supports | Examples: A cognitive function test (such as remembering a password or solving a puzzle) is not required on this website. |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|--------------------|--|
| 4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA) | Partially supports | <p>Examples of supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important status messages are announced by screen readers. <p>Examples of exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some status messages within Cambridge Spiral eReader are not correctly announced by mobile screen readers and they are displayed for limited amount of time only. |