



Government
Digital Service



Cabinet Office

Date: 21 June 2022

Website: <https://www.bath.ac.uk/>

Website accessibility regulations came into force on 23 September 2018. The regulations mean that public sector bodies now have a legal obligation to meet accessibility requirements for their websites.

To check how well the public sector are meeting the requirements, the Government Digital Service (part of the Cabinet Office) has been monitoring a sample of public sector websites.

You've been sent this report because <https://www.bath.ac.uk/> is one of the websites we've monitored. This document explains:

- which parts of your website we looked at
- how we checked the accessibility of those pages
- the accessibility issues found and how important they are
- what you need to do next to fix the issues

You can [read more about the web accessibility regulations](#).

How accessible the website is

We checked <https://www.bath.ac.uk/> on 21 June 2022 against the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 AA standard: <https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/>

Based on our testing, this site is partially compliant with WCAG 2.1 AA. This means there are some things which are not fully accessible.

How we checked

We use a mixture of simple manual checks and automated tests to find only the most common barriers to users with accessibility needs. We would expect your organisation to fully audit the website to find any other accessibility issues.

Manual checks included using each page without a mouse, viewing the page at different zoom settings, and simulating viewing the page on a small screen.

The automated tests were completed using the latest version of axe: <https://www.deque.com/axe/>

Tests were completed using different settings in the Google Chrome browser on Mac OSX with a 15-inch screen.

Pages we checked

Page Name	URL
Home page	https://www.bath.ac.uk/
Contacting the University page	https://www.bath.ac.uk/guides/contacting-the-university/
Website accessibility statement	https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/website-accessibility-statement/
Annual reports and accounts 2020-21 PDF	https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/financial-statements-and-annual-reports/attachments/annual-report-and-accounts-2020-21.pdf
Campus tours booking form	https://www.bath.ac.uk/forms/campus-tours-booking-form/
Undergraduate accommodation prices page	https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/undergraduate-accommodation-prices/
Case studies	https://www.bath.ac.uk/case-studies/?f.Department+or+group%7CX=Marketing&f.Type%7CY=Student+case+study

The issues we found

Only serious accessibility issues on the sample of pages we tested are listed in this report – these will cause problems for users with access needs when using your website. There are likely to be smaller errors which will make things more difficult for some users. You must carry out your own audit to find and fix issues on other pages.

Issues

The following errors were found.

Issue and description	Where the issue was found
<p>WCAG 2.4.7 Focus Visible</p> <p>A visible focus helps users know which element has keyboard focus and where they are on the page.</p> <p>When an element gets focus there should be a visible border around it. Highlighting the element that has keyboard focus or is hovered over can provide information like whether the element is interactive or the</p>	<p>Home page, Contacting the University page, Campus tours booking form and Case studies page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keyboard focus is briefly lost on a tab between 'About' in the menu and the search bar. Focus is briefly lost after the search button when the page is zoomed in at 200%. <p>Home page:</p>

Issue and description	Where the issue was found
<p>scope of that element.</p> <p>Operating systems have a native indication of focus, which is available in many browsers. The default display of the focus indicator is not always highly visible and may even be difficult to see especially on coloured backgrounds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus issues when tabbing past the hamburger menu when the page is zoomed in at 400%. <p>Contacting the University page, Campus tours booking form and Case studies page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hamburger submenu options receive tab focus when the user hasn't expanded the hamburger menu meaning focus is not visible. <p>Campus tours booking form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no visible keyboard tab focus on the 'Menu' dropdown when the page is zoomed in at 200% or higher.
<p>WCAG 1.4.3 Contrast (minimum): Elements must have sufficient colour contrast</p> <p>Poor colour contrast makes it difficult for someone with sight loss to see the content properly. If there is a big difference between the background and foreground colours it should be much easier to see the difference between them.</p>	<p>Home page, Contacting the University page, Campus tours booking form and Case studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keyboard tab focus changes the colour of the text in the header e.g. 'Staff' and 'Students' from black to turquoise. The turquoise fails with white. Grey 'Search bath.ac.uk' placeholder text in the search bar fails. <p>Website accessibility statement and Undergraduate accommodation prices page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keyboard tab focus changes the colour of footer text from white to pink. The pink fails on the navy background. <p>Campus tours booking form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grey input prompt text fails on grey, for example 'Please write names of ALL guests attending. If attending alone, please write 'no guest''.
<p>WCAG 1.1.1 Non-text Content: Elements containing role="img" have an alternative text</p> <p>People with sight loss may not be able to see an image clearly on a page. Text alternatives can be used by screen readers to share the same information a sighted user would get from the image. The alternative text must describe the information or</p>	<p>Home page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refers to the banner background image element. It is missing alternative text.

Issue and description	Where the issue was found
<p>function represented by the image.</p> <p>Alternatives or alt attributes must be used for items such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Images • Elements containing role="img" • Elements containing role="progressbar" • Images used as buttons • Area elements of image maps • Embedded object elements • Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) images and graphics 	
<p>WCAG 2.4.2 Page titled</p> <p>PDF documents should have titles that describe the topic or purpose of the page. Titles help users understand the topic without having to read the entire document.</p> <p>Without a descriptive title a user may need to spend time searching the document to decide whether the content is relevant.</p> <p>When a PDF is displayed in a browser the title will usually be displayed in the top title bar or as the tab name.</p>	<p>Annual reports and accounts 2020-21 PDF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The document does not contain a document title or the document title is empty.
<p>WCAG 2.4.1 Bypass Blocks and WCAG 4.1.2 Name, Role, Value: Frames must have an accessible name</p> <p>A frame title describes the content of the frame. Screen readers can understand this and help users move through frame elements quickly by using an option to select a list of titles for all frames on the page.</p> <p>A descriptive, meaningful and unique title allows users to find the frame they need. Ensure all frame and iframe elements have useful <title> attribute values.</p>	<p>Campus tours booking form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an iframe around the form. It is missing accessible text.

Accessibility statement

As part of the regulations you must publish an accessibility statement.

An accessibility statement for the website was found but:

- it was not in the correct format
- accessibility issues were found during the test that were not included in the statement
- mandatory wording is missing

More information about accessibility statements can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/accessibility-requirements-for-public-sector-websites-and-apps>

A sample statement can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sample-accessibility-statement>

What to do next

It is a requirement of The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 that public sector websites are accessible.

You should fix the issues that were found and do your own accessibility audit to check for issues that go beyond the scope of simple accessibility testing.

You need to review your accessibility statement to cover the issues found in this report, including ones related to your accessibility statement, and any other accessibility issues found during your own site audit.

Enforcement

On behalf of the Minister for the Cabinet Office we provide the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) or Equality Commission for Northern Ireland (ECNI) with details about public sector bodies who have been monitored. If accessibility issues remain after giving you time to fix them, the EHRC or ECNI may take further action.

Public sector bodies must publish an accessibility statement and review it regularly. If the decision is taken that a public sector body has failed to publish an accessibility statement or that the accessibility statement is incorrect, the Minister for the Cabinet Office may publish the name of the body and a copy of the decision.

The enforcement process can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/accessibility-requirements-for-public-sector-websites-and-apps#how-the-accessibility-regulations-will-be-monitored-and-enforced>

Contact and more information

This test was conducted by the Government Digital Service on behalf of the Minister of the Cabinet Office as part of their obligations to monitor the accessibility of public sector websites in the United Kingdom.

As the monitoring body we cannot offer specific advice on approaches or general accessibility queries other than questions directly related to the items in this report.

Any questions about this report can be sent to accessibility-monitoring@digital.cabinet-office.gov.uk

Further information on guidance and tools for digital accessibility can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-and-tools-for-digital-accessibility>

Help with accessibility auditing and publishing an accessibility statement can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/make-your-website-or-app-accessible-and-publish-an-accessibility-statement>