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**Accessibility Statement for Bolton College**

This accessibility statement applies to [www.boltoncollege.ac.uk](http://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk)

This website is run by Bolton College. We want as many people as possible to be able to use this website. For example, that means you should be able to:

* Change colours, contrast levels and fonts via browser or plug in
* Zoom in up to 400% without the text spilling off the screen
* Navigate most of the website using just a keyboard
* Listen to most of the website using a screen reader
* Navigate most of the website using speech recognition software

We follow plain English guidelines when producing written content for the website.

[AbilityNet](https://mcmw.abilitynet.org.uk/) has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

**How accessible this website is**

We know some parts of this website are not fully accessible:

* Many documents are in PDF format and are not fully accessible to screen reader software
* You cannot skip to the main content when using a screen reader
* Some elements are not available to users of assistive technologies like screen readers
* Some elements have poor colour contrast

We’ve undertaken an accessibility audit of the site and are now in the process of planning work to improve the non-accessible content. The plan includes securing quotations for additional work to be carried out on the structure of the website template, which in turn will help address these issues.

**Feedback and contact information**

If you need information on this website in a different format like accessible PDF, large print or easy read:

* Email marketing@boltoncc.ac.uk
* Call 01204 482141

We’ll respond and let you know how long the work will take.

**Reporting accessibility problems with this website**

We’re always looking to improve the accessibility of this website. If you find any problems not listed on this page or think we’re not meeting accessibility requirements, please contact: marketing@boltoncc.ac.uk

**Enforcement procedure**

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is responsible for enforcing the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 (the ‘accessibility regulations’). If you’re not happy with how we respond to your complaint, [contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service (EASS)](https://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com/).

**Contacting us by phone or visiting us in person**

We have a dedicated Learner Support team in College to provide assistance for students with special educational needs and disabilities.

You can find out more about this service by contacting Learner Support on 01204 482669; contacting Janet Bishop – Head of Learner Support on janet.bishop@boltoncc.ac.uk; or contacting Gillian Lonsdale – Transition and Support Leader on gillian.lonsdale@boltoncc.ac.uk

**Technical Information about this website’s accessibility**

Bolton College is committed to making its website accessible, in accordance with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

**Compliance status**

This website is partially compliant with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1](https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/) AA standard, due to the non-compliances listed below.

**Non-accessible content**

The content listed below is non-accessible for the following reasons. A website audit has taken place and non-accessible content has been identified. The content which is non-accessible requires additional work to the website template. We’re assessing the cost of fixing these issues and plan to fix them.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Accessibility problem** | **WCAG 2.1 AA success criteria** | **Plan to fix** |
| Form fields are not marked up appropriately | 3.3.2 | Additional coding is required and it’s outside of our ability. Once the cost to fix this issue has been identified, we’ll ensure the label fields are marked appropriately. |
| There’s no way to skip the repeated content in the page header | 2.4.1 | This requires additional work to the website template. Once the cost to fix this issue has been identified, this feature will be enabled for keyboard users to skip to the main content of a page. |
| Some of the headings used are not styled properly | 2.4.6 | This makes it difficult for screen readers to navigate the page. We plan to address this issue so that heading levels are appropriately used. |
| Some links don’t make sense out of context | 4.1.2 | Some buttons such as ‘More’ and ‘Click Here’ don’t make sense out of context but require additional work from our website hosts. Once the cost to fix this issue has been identified, we will ensure any links on the website clearly explain where the link goes. |
| Some images don’t have alt text | 1.1.1 | Additional work is required to the website template from our website hosts. We plan to add text alternatives for all images once this feature becomes available. |
| Some text contrast and navigational elements don’t comply with the text to background contrast ratio. | 1.4.3 | The cost to fixing this issue is being identified. When we publish any new images with text, we will avoid where possible and ensure that any information displayed in this manner is also available in an accessible format. |
| Some adjacent links go to the same URL | 2.1.1 | This means additional navigation for keyboard and screen reader users. The cost to fixing this issue is being identified as it is a website template change. |
| Most PDFs are not accessible | 4.1.2 | This requires additional resources. Any future documents we publish will be accessible. |

**Content that’s not within the scope of the accessibility regulations**

**PDFs and other documents**

Many of our PDFs and Word documents don’t meet accessibility standards. For example, they may not be marked up so they are accessible to a screen reader. This doesn’t meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 4.1.2. The accessibility regulations don’t require us to fix PDFs or other documents published before 23rd September 2018 if they’re not essential to providing our services. Any new PDFs or Word documents we publish will meet accessibility standards. Please contact us if you have difficulty with any of the documents on the site and we will work to provide you with the content in an alternative, more accessible format.

**What we’re doing to improve accessibility**

We are working with Bolton College’s senior management team in prioritising the accessibility issues above so that our website is accessible to more users.

**Preparation of this accessibility statement**

This statement was prepared on 30th September 2020. It was last reviewed on 6th October 2020. This website was last tested on 11th September 2020. The test was carried out internally.

We used a sample of popular webpages to reflect the different types of pages and content. The sample pages we tested were:

[www.boltoncollege.ac.uk](http://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk)

[www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/young-people](http://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/young-people)

[www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/yp-science](http://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/yp-science)

[www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/contact-us](http://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/contact-us)

[www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/assets/Uploads/cis-pdf-yp/SCIENCE/SC010-YP01.pdf](https://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/assets/Uploads/cis-pdf-yp/SCIENCE/SC010-YP01.pdf)

[www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/courses/community](http://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/courses/community)

www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/adult-learning/

All website forms.