1. Accessibility statement for StREAM

This resource is produced by Solutionpath Limited. We want as many people as possible to be able to use this web application.

We are therefore in the process of developing an accessible view for the student population. This alternate view will be available within the December 2020 v4.2.1 increment.

In the interim, we have also made the website text as simple as possible to understand. Although all text displayed is defined by individual institutions.

AbilityNet has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

2. How accessible StREAM is…

We know some parts of the application aren't fully accessible:

- Data representations are dynamic and we can't include information tags
- Data representations are difficult to see for those that are colour blind
- Our StREAM pages are difficult to navigate using just a keyboard
- Users can't skip to main content when you are using a screen reader

3. What to do if you can't access parts of StREAM

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

- email servicedesk@solutionpath.co.uk
- call 0113 3852694

We'll consider your request and get back to you in 5 working days.

4. Reporting accessibility problems with StREAM

4.1. When will an accessible version of StREAM be available?

The accessible version of StREAM will be available in our next minor release in accordance to our Roadmap (December 2020). We will be providing early visibility on the accessible view designs with our StREAM User Community. We would welcome volunteers to test our prototype and provide feedback ahead of development completion.

Following the v4.2.1 release, if you find any problems that aren't listed on this page or think we're not meeting accessibility requirements, contact: servicedesk@solutionpath.co.uk detailing the nature of the defect/feature.

4.2. 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).

5. Technical information about StREAM accessibility

Solutionpath Limited is committed to making its application accessible, in accordance with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.Web link

We have considered accessibility for two communities;

5.1. For the student user

The application is not currently compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1AA standard. The 'Accessible Student View' will be available in release v4.2.1 and will be compliant.

5.2. For staff access

For all staff access, there are no current plans to make the staff view compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1AA standard.

The non-accessible sections of the current solution are listed below.

6. Non accessible content

The content listed below is non-accessible for the following reasons.

- Engagement charts are not displayed as alternative text.
- Resource chart data is displayed in an alternative text, however navigation to the data is not accessible as per point above.
- Selection of alternative dates for visual representations in order to select alternative dates is not accessible as the mechanism used is a 'Calendar'

7. Non-compliance with the accessibility regulations

This section outlines the inaccessible components of the current version of StREAM including details on which of the WCAG 2.1 AA success criteria the problem falls on.

7.1. Non-text Content: Provide text alternatives for non-text content

Some images don't have a text alternative, so the information in them isn't available to people using a screen reader. This doesn't meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.1.1 (non-text content).

We plan to add text alternatives for all images by December 2020. When we publish new content we'll make sure our use of images meets accessibility standards.

7.2. Use of Colour: Don't use presentation that relies solely on colour

Some visual representations (e.g. Resource Pie Chart) rely on colour. This doesn't meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.4.1 (use of colour).

We plan to provide text alternatives as well as additional light and dark themes by December 2020. When we publish new content we'll make sure our use of colour meets accessibility standards.

8. Disproportionate burden

Acknowledging that we supply to HEI's whom have obligations as PUBLIC sector organisations. We subjected our StREAM platform to detailed analysis by a third party (Ability.net) it was determined that to make the application screen reader accessible would require;

1. A significant recreation of core code and modification of the design as StREAM was designed present complex data in an intuitive way and therefore reliant on graphical representations. To meet the requirements would take significant time and resource to do so, and
2. Reduce the functionality of the software (such as removing visualisations).

It was considered to be a 'disproportionate burden' to achieve complete application accessibility for StREAM and therefore developing a dedicated accessible student view that ensures content is accessible is the proposed solution. This will be continually assessed as the disproportionate burden now won't necessarily be a disproportionate burden forever.

9. Current functionality Considered Disproportionate Burden

9.1. Navigation and accessing information

There's no way to skip the repeated content in the page header (for example, a 'skip to main content' option). This doesn't meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 2.4.1 (bypass blocks).

It's not always possible to change the device orientation from horizontal to vertical without making it more difficult to view the content. This doesn't meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.3.4 (orientation).

It's not possible for users to change text size without some of the content overlapping. This doesn't meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.4.4 (resize text).

9.2.   Interactive tools and transactions

Some of our interactive forms are difficult to navigate using a keyboard. For example, because some form controls are missing a 'label' tag.

Our forms are built and hosted through third party software and 'skinned' to look like our website. This doesn't meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.3.1 (information and relationships).

We've assessed the cost of fixing the issues with navigation and accessing information, and with interactive tools and transactions. We believe that doing so now would be a <u>disproportionate burden</u> within the meaning of the accessibility regulations.

10.   Content that's not within the scope of the accessibility regulations

10.1.   PDFs and other documents

Many of our older PDFs and Word documents don't meet accessibility standards - for example, they may not be structured so they're accessible to a screen reader. This doesn't meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 4.1.2 (name, role value).

Some of our PDFs and Word documents are essential to providing our services. For example, we have PDFs with information on how users can access our services, and forms published as Word documents.

The accessibility regulations <u>don't require us to fix PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018</u> if they're not essential to providing our services.

10.2.   Live video

Live video streams don't have captions. This doesn't meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.2.4 (captions - live).

We don't plan to add captions to live video streams because live video is <u>exempt from meeting the accessibility regulations</u>.

11.   How we tested the StREAM application

This application was last tested in December of 2018. The test was carried out by AbilityNet who tested our main StREAM platform.

A copy of the Report may be requested by contacting us on: servicedesk@solutionpath.co.uk

12.   What we're doing to improve accessibility

We will be releasing an accessible view in our v4.2.1 release in December 2020.

We will be creating a single page accessible view of critical information for Student users.

Proposed accessible enhancements are as per the below and will be tested with the client base.

- The single page view will essentially be accordions that can be expanded and collapsed to see different sections of information.

- We're striving to make the page AA WCAG 2.1 compliant. We'll be using a plugin for the design software we're using to ensure the designs adhere to proper contrast ratios and sizes. Furthermore, a checklist has been sent to members of the project to ensure everyone knows what boxes we're hoping to tick in terms of compliance.

- For the engagement tab, we're only showing the daily engagement data, and we're planning on changing the 'Overall' tab to a table view with the cohort average and top 25% lines represented in the table as extra rows.

- We'll be making slight modifications to the engagement bubbles to make them easier to understand; this will likely just be renaming of some labels.

- We'll be removing both the 'Trend' and the 'Predicted Grade' bubbles.

<TO BE DEPLOYED INTO THE StREAM APPLICATION>

- We'll be removing all date pickers and replacing them with set ranges of a week, four weeks and ten weeks.

- We'll be adding a filter for 'open' and 'complete' for exemptions and interventions to make it easier to find what users are looking for.

- We'll be inserting a big table showing resource usage.

- We'll be making the weighting table clearer under resources as it's a little hidden; we'll also be removing the pie chart.

- The profile tab will remain as is.

- We'll be leaving the context-sensitive links in place, but these will be added to the wireframes.

- Attendance will keep a summary table, and we will be adding filters for modules.

- Assessments will get a slight redesign with the addition of the assessment name on the accordion, we're also changing the date to the submission date, and we'll be adding a filter for modules.

- We'll also be creating a light theme and a dark theme for all three types of colour blindness.

This statement was prepared on 03/09/2020. It was last updated on 22/09/2020

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