

Digital Unite Accessibility Statement

We are committed to providing online Networks* that can be used by everyone, regardless of technology or ability. We meet many of the current standards and guidelines.

While we work continuously to increase the accessibility and usability of our online training and support, it is not always possible to do that in every aspect.

This statement explains our Networks' current level of accessibility and the areas we are improving.

(*Networks: Digital Champions Network, Digital Health Champions Network, Aspire Network)

Meeting the accessibility standards

We work towards WCAG AA accessibility across our Networks and meet common good practices for accessibility. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Using sufficient colour contrast between text and backgrounds.
- Including alt text attributes on content images.
- Using descriptive link text.
- Making sure interactive elements are large and distinct and easy to click.
- Ensuring the site can be read successfully by screenreaders and other accessibility aids.
- Ensuring the site can be zoomed in by the browser.
- Avoiding interactivity which can only be achieved by hovering over an element.
- Ensuring page layouts have a logical structure and use HTML elements correctly.

Our Networks can be used across a wide range of popular browsers and devices, including new and older computers, smartphones and tablets.

Our courses

Our Networks include courses with interactive elements including multiple choice questions, image hotspots and more. Many of our courses currently use the H5P interactive learning library. This is an open-source software that makes its interactive learning components accessible to AA standard. [Read more about H5P accessibility here.](#)

Some of our older courses use interactive elements provided by a different library. These elements are only partially compliant with WCAG AA standard and so currently, we can't call them fully accessible, particularly to those using assistive technologies. However, we are working to improve this.

We provide accessible course notes for anyone who is unable to access our courses. These summarise the content of the course in a simple document format, and don't include interactive elements. These course notes can be used with a screenreader.

Accessibility for people with a learning disability or difficulty

Our Networks were not specifically designed for people with a learning disability, so they are not fully accessible to this group. However, we have worked closely with the PurpleSTARS team from specialists, RIX research, to understand the Network's current accessibility level for people with a learning disability. Their review showed that:

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- For people who have a mild learning disability, the Networks are generally okay to use.
- For those with a moderate or more severe learning disability, it is unlikely that they would be able to use our Networks without support from a helper.
- Our Aspire Network, which supports projects working with those with a learning disability, has been simplified, with less to look at and think about on each page. We also use Photosymbols library to help communicate concepts.
- Generally, we always avoid complex language so our content can be understood by everyone.
- We provide some content through the RIX Wiki platform which is specifically designed for people with a learning disability.
- Our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use are in easy read versions.
- We provide easy read guides covering a range of digital skills topics.

How we are improving

Accessibility is a key focus for our Networks' future.

Courses

Online learning is an important part of our Networks. We're now using an e-learning authoring tool with improved accessibility features to replace some of our popular course content. Eventually we hope to migrate all courses onto this tool.

Platform

We're planning a major update to our platform from September 2021 onwards, during which we will be significantly improving accessibility and usability across all of our Networks.