

Balliol Primary School: Website Accessibility Statement Policy

Date of Implementation: 2025-09-07

Review Date: September 2026

Policy Owner: Headteacher

Approved by: Governing Body

1. Introduction and Purpose

This policy outlines Balliol Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our website is accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities. We believe that all pupils, parents, staff, and members of the wider community should have equal access to the information and services provided on our website. This policy aligns with the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all pages and content on the Balliol Primary School website (www.balliolschool.co.uk) and any subdomains. It covers all aspects of website design, development, and maintenance.

3. Legal Framework

This policy is informed by the following legislation and guidelines:

- **Equality Act 2010:** Ensures that services, including those provided online, are accessible to people with disabilities.
- **Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018:** Requires public sector bodies to make their websites and mobile apps more accessible.
- **Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1:** An internationally recognised standard for web accessibility. We aim to meet WCAG 2.1 Level AA standards.

4. Accessibility Standards

Balliol Primary School is committed to meeting the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA standards. This includes:

- **Perceivable:**
 - Providing text alternatives for non-text content.
 - Providing captions and other alternatives for multimedia.
 - Ensuring content is adaptable and can be presented in different ways without losing information or structure.

- Making it easier for users to see and hear content, including separating foreground from background.
- **Operable:**
 - Making all functionality available from a keyboard.
 - Providing users enough time to read and use content.
 - Not using content that causes seizures.
 - Helping users navigate, find content, and determine where they are.
- **Understandable:**
 - Making text readable and understandable.
 - Making content appear and operate in predictable ways.
 - Helping users avoid and correct mistakes.
- **Robust:**
 - Ensuring content is compatible with a wide range of user agents, including assistive technologies.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Headteacher:** Overall responsibility for ensuring the implementation and review of this policy.
- **Website Manager/Designated Staff Member:** Responsible for the day-to-day management of the website and ensuring that all content is accessible. This includes training staff, conducting accessibility audits, and addressing accessibility issues.
- **All Staff:** Responsible for creating and uploading accessible content to the website, following the guidelines outlined in this policy.
- **Governing Body:** Responsible for monitoring the implementation of this policy and ensuring that sufficient resources are allocated to support accessibility.

6. Implementation Strategies

To ensure website accessibility, Balliol Primary School will implement the following strategies:

- **Accessibility Audits:** Regular accessibility audits will be conducted to identify and address any accessibility issues.
- **Staff Training:** Provide training to all staff on creating accessible content, including using appropriate headings, alt text for images, and accessible document formats.
- **Content Creation Guidelines:** Develop and implement clear guidelines for creating accessible content, including templates and checklists.
- **User Feedback:** Encourage users to provide feedback on the accessibility of the website and respond promptly to any concerns raised.
- **Procurement:** Ensure that any new website design or development projects incorporate accessibility requirements from the outset.
- **Plain Language:** Use clear, concise language and avoid jargon.
- **Alternative Formats:** Provide alternative formats of content, such as transcripts for audio and video, upon request.
- **Colour Contrast:** Ensure sufficient colour contrast between text and background.

- **Keyboard Navigation:** Ensure that all website functionality can be accessed using a keyboard.
- **Assistive Technology Compatibility:** Test the website with a range of assistive technologies, such as screen readers.

7. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher and Governing Body to ensure it remains relevant and effective. The review will consider:

- User feedback on website accessibility.
- Results of accessibility audits.
- Changes in legislation and guidelines.
- Progress towards meeting WCAG 2.1 Level AA standards.

8. Reporting Accessibility Issues

If you encounter any accessibility issues on the Balliol Primary School website, please contact us using the following methods:

- **Email:** office@balliolschool.co.uk
- **Phone:** 01234 300601
- **Contact Form:** Via the website contact page.

We are committed to responding to accessibility concerns promptly and taking appropriate action to address them.

9. Communication

This policy will be communicated to all staff, parents, pupils, and the wider school community through the following channels:

- Publishing the policy on the school website.
- Including information about website accessibility in school newsletters and communications.
- Providing training to staff on website accessibility.

10. Related Policies and Procedures

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Equality and Diversity Policy
- SEND Policy
- Acceptable Use Policy (for IT)
- Data Protection Policy