

SoftChalk Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT[®] Version 2.4)

Name of Product/Version: SoftChalk Cloud (includes both the SoftChalk Create app and SoftChalk Create Online).

Report Date: August 31, 2021

Product Description: SoftChalk Cloud is a digital curriculum authoring platform that educators use to create web-based learning content. This learning content (essentially html page content) is delivered to students who use a web browser to view the learning content. This document addresses the accessibility of the web-based learning content that can be produced by SoftChalk Cloud (as tested against Level A and Level AA criteria of the World Wide Web Consortium's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines).

SoftChalk Cloud provides two editors for creating learning content – the Cloud Create app and Create Online, a browser-based editor. Both versions of the editor produce the same content in the same html format. The web-based learning content that is produced by an author using SoftChalk Cloud, is typically referred to as a “lesson”. Lessons can vary greatly, depending on what materials the author chooses to include in their lesson. Typically a lesson includes text, images, and page navigation. It may also include media such as audio and video files, as well as interactive quiz questions, interactive learning activities and text annotations. It is also possible to embed within a SoftChalk lesson other materials such as web links, iframes, pdf files, and materials produced by other content authoring programs.

At SoftChalk we have worked closely with our clients and other industry experts to include and adapt product features to enable authors to produce accessible html-based learning content using SoftChalk Cloud. However, each content author is in control of the content and materials that are included in the lessons they produce with SoftChalk Cloud. The author-included content may or may not be accessible (e.g. an included video may or may not include captions).

There are many features in SoftChalk that automatically include accessibility features in the produced content. For example, SoftChalk automatically includes “Skip Navigation” links to allow the student who is using a Screen Reader to more quickly navigate to the main content areas of the page, and SoftChalk requires the author to provide an “alt text” description for included images.

Contact Information: for more information, please email: help@softchalk.com

Notes:

Evaluation Methods Used: The SoftChalk product team has collaborated with accessibility experts in university environments and commercial publishers who produce education content, for product evaluation and recommendations. We have also conducted testing using JAWS, Safari VoiceOver, and online tools such as the WebAIM Color Contrast Checker and The University of Illinois FAE tool. Testing was conducted with a variety of desktop web browsers, including Firefox, Chrome and Safari.

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

| Standard/Guideline | Included In Report |
|--|---|
| Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 | Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (Yes) |
| Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 | Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (Yes) |

Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

- **Supports:** The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.
- **Partially Supports:** Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.
- **Does Not Support:** The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.
- **Not Applicable:** The criterion is not relevant to the product.
- **Not Evaluated:** The product has not been evaluated against the criterion. This can be used only in WCAG 2.0 Level AAA.

WCAG 2.x Report

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.x Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the [WCAG 2.0 Conformance Requirements](#).

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes:

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|-------------------|---|
| 1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A) | Supports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alt text is used for all icons and images within lessons. When an author adds an image to a lesson, the author is required to include alt text. Images that do not convey content are given a null alt text. Form buttons (for interactive quiz questions and activities) have descriptive values and form inputs have associated text labels. Options are provided for the author to include text descriptions for non-text content such as video, audio, web widgets (which are associated with the media element in the lesson) Frames are not used in lessons. All Interactive Activities (for example, Hot Spot images, Sorting Activities, Slideshows), provide are accessible via screen reader, and all interactive activities are able to be navigated by both mouse and keyboard only navigation. |
| 1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A) | Supports | <p>SoftChalk Create supports alternatives for video by providing the author a way to include an alternative text description for each video media element in the lesson, and when provided by the author, the text alternative is clearly labeled as such.</p> |
| 1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A) | Supports | <p>For pre-recorded video elements in a lesson, SoftChalk Create supports the ability to specify subtitles for the video. The author can include a reference to a 'track' file that includes subtitles for individual videos.</p> |
| 1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A) | Supports | <p>SoftChalk Create supports alternatives for video by providing the author a way to include an</p> |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|-------------------|--|
| | | <p>alternative text description for each video media element in the lesson, and when provided by the author, the text alternative is clearly labeled as such.</p> |
| <p>1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)</p> | <p>Supports</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semantic markup (headings, lists, etc.) is used appropriately to designate headings and emphasized text. • Headings and ARIA landmarks are used to help convey presentation. • The table feature in SoftChalk allows the content author to include headers within a table. • Authors can use headings and other structural page/lesson elements to designate structure and sequence. It is the responsibility of the author to use these elements correctly |
| <p>1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)</p> | <p>Supports</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authors can use headings and other structural page/lesson elements to designate structure and sequence. It is the responsibility of the author to use these elements correctly • Skip navigation links at the top of the lesson pages allow users to bypass the main navigation and go directly to the main content. • Those using keyboard-only navigation to access all areas of the lesson and progress in a logical and natural way through the content. |
| <p>1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)</p> | <p>Supports</p> | <p>Instructions and feedback do not rely solely upon shape, size, visual location or an audio sound.</p> |
| <p>1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)</p> | <p>Supports</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color is not used as the sole method of conveying content or distinguishing visual elements • Color is not used to distinguish links. Links are distinguished by underlining them in the text. |
| <p>1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)</p> | <p>Supports</p> | <p>Audio is not configured to play automatically on a page.</p> |
| <p>2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)</p> | <p>Supports</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All aspects of the web content pages are accessible via the keyboard tab and arrow keys. |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|-------------------|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When creating a lesson, the content author may optionally include an interactive activity. All interactive activities are keyboard accessible. By keyboard accessible we mean that the student can complete the activity using only the keyboard to access and interact with the activity. |
| 2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A) | Supports | Keyboard focus is not locked or trapped at any one particular page element. The user can navigate to and from all navigable page elements using only a keyboard. |
| 2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 only) | Supports | Some interactive elements provide keyboard shortcuts that maybe be used by those using the keyboard to navigate the activity. |
| 2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A) | Supports | There are no SoftChalk lesson components that use timers or time limits. There are no document components that use timers or time limits |
| 2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A) | Supports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SoftChalk lesson pages do not include moving, blinking or scrolling text. SoftChalk lesson pages do not include automatically or dynamically updating content |
| 2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A) | Supports | SoftChalk lesson pages do not use flashes or flashing objects. |
| 2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons provide a 'skip navigation link' that allows the student to skip past redundant navigation information in the page and go directly to the main content area of the page more efficiently. The Skip Nav link is presented at the top of the page when the learner presses the tab key. |
| 2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A) | Supports | SoftChalk lesson pages have descriptive html page titles |
| 2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A) | Supports | Each lesson pages as a logical tab order so that the focus can progress in a logical way thru the lesson. |
| 2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A) | Supports | Links that are part of the SoftChalk lesson page are designed such that the purpose of the link can be determined from the link text alone or from the link text and its context. |
| 2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 only) | Not applicable | |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|---|-------------------|--|
| 2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 only) | Not applicable | |
| 2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 only) | Not applicable | |
| 2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 only) | Not applicable | |
| 3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A) | Supports | Lesson pages include the HTML lang attribute that is determined by the language setting used to generate the lesson. |
| 3.2.1 On Focus (Level A) | Supports | When a page element receives focus, it does not result in changes to the page that could confuse or disorient the user |
| 3.2.2 On Input (Level A) | Supports | When a user inputs information or interacts with a control, it does not result in a change to the page that would confuse the user. |
| 3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A) | Supports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SoftChalk lessons do not implement required form elements. • SoftChalk lessons do not include auto detection of input errors. |
| 3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A) | Supports | Default instructions are provided for interactive elements, such as activities. The lesson author also has the ability to modify/provide this information as desired. |
| 4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) | Supports | All lesson web pages are written to HTML5 specifications |
| 4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A) | Supports | Form elements (used for interactive quizzes and activities) are developed and validated against HTML5 specifications and standards. ARIA tags are used to enhance accessibility in all interactive forms and all pages. |

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|----------|-------------------|--------------------------|
|----------|-------------------|--------------------------|

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|-------------------|--|
| 1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA) | Not applicable | SoftChalk lessons do not use live multimedia |
| 1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA) | Supports | SoftChalk Create supports alternatives for audio recordings by providing the author a way to include an alternative text description for each audio media element in the lesson, and when provided by the author, the text alternative is clearly labeled as such. |
| 1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 only) | Supports | SoftChalk lesson content is built to be responsive to the device viewport size and orientation used by the user. |
| 1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 only) | Supports | Appropriate visible labels and instructions are used to help users understand the purpose of form input fields . |
| 1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA) | Supports | The visual contrast ratio of text and images components of the lesson pages is at least 4:5:1 |
| 1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA) | Supports | Text can be resized without assistive technology up to 200 percent without loss of content or functionality |
| 1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA) | Not applicable | Images of Text are not used in lesson pages. |
| 1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 only) | Supports | Lesson content is designed to reflow without loss of information or functionality and without requiring scrolling in two dimensions, even when the browser is used up to 400% zoom. |
| 1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 only) | Supports | User interface components and states required to understand the content have a contrast ratio of at least 3:1 |
| 1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 only) | Not applicable | |
| 1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 only) | Supports | SoftChalk's tooltips and other hover or keyboard focus triggers are persistent (once triggered) and dismissable by the user. |
| 2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA) | Supports | ability to include multiple ways to navigate between pages of a lesson (e.g a table of contents can be displayed, as well as a link to go to the prev or next page at either the top or bottom of the page).Users control their own content and have the |
| 2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons use headings to indicate topic and purpose. SoftChalk interactive forms also implement descriptive headings and labels to indicate their |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|-------------------|---|
| | | purpose. |
| 2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA) | Supports | It is visually apparent which page element has the current keyboard focus as you tab thru the page. |
| 3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA) | Supports | SoftChalk does not support the use of different languages within a single lesson. |
| 3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA) | Supports | Navigation links that are repeated on the lesson pages do not change order when navigating thru the lesson. |
| 3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA) | Supports | When a lesson has multiple pages, SoftChalk generates each page in a consistent standard format so that the same elements that have the same functionality are consistent across pages. |
| 3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA) | Not applicable | SoftChalk lessons do not include auto detection of input errors. |
| 3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA) | Not applicable | SoftChalk lessons do not include auto detection of input errors. |
| 4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 only) | Not applicable | SoftChalk lessons do not use status messaging |

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Notes:

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|-------------------|---|
| 1.2.6 Sign Language (Prerecorded) (Level AAA) | Not applicable | SoftChalk does not provide audio or video recording features. |
| 1.2.7 Extended Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AAA) | Not applicable | SoftChalk does not provide audio recording features. |
| 1.2.8 Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level AAA) | Not applicable | SoftChalk does not provide audio or video recording features. |
| 1.2.9 Audio-only (Live) (Level AAA) | Not applicable | SoftChalk does not provide audio recording features. |
| 1.3.6 Identify Purpose (Level AAA 2.1 only) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons use ARIA landmarks to identify regions or the page and to markup user interface |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|-------------------|---|
| | | components within the interactive activities. |
| 1.4.6 Contrast (Enhanced) (Level AAA) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons implement a ratio of at least 7:1 for all text and images. |
| 1.4.7 Low or No Background Audio (Level AAA) | Not applicable | No background audio is used in SoftChalk lessons |
| 1.4.8 Visual Presentation (Level AAA) | Does Not Support | |
| 1.4.9 Images of Text (No Exception) (Level AAA) | Supports | SoftChalk lesson do not use images of text. |
| 2.1.3 Keyboard (No Exception) (Level AAA) | Supports | All aspects of the lesson are accessible via the keyboard tab and arrow keys. |
| 2.2.3 No Timing (Level AAA) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons do not include any timed elements. |
| 2.2.4 Interruptions (Level AAA) | Not applicable | SoftChalk lessons do not include interruption elements |
| 2.2.5 Re-authenticating (Level AAA) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons require authentication in certain circumstances and these allow the learner to resume where they left off in the lesson. |
| 2.2.6 Timeouts (Level AAA 2.1 only) | Not applicable | SoftChalk lessons do not implement any user inactivity timeouts. |
| 2.3.2 Three Flashes (Level AAA) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons do not include any flashing elements |
| 2.3.3 Animation from Interactions (Level AAA 2.1 only) | Does Not Support | |
| 2.4.8 Location (Level AAA) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons may include page names, page numbers, table of contents and bread crumb information to allow users to determine their location within a set of lesson pages. |
| 2.4.9 Link Purpose (Link Only) (Level AAA) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons require the author to provide a destination link title when inserting web links into a lesson. |
| 2.4.10 Section Headings (Level AAA) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons support the use of headings (h1-h6) to organize lesson content. Section headings are also used appropriately for automatically-generated content, for example side-bar headings, and table of contents. |
| 2.5.5 Target Size (Level AAA 2.1 only) | Does Not Support | |
| 2.5.6 Concurrent Input Mechanisms (Level AAA 2.1 only) | Does Not Support | |
| 3.1.3 Unusual Words (Level AAA) | Supports | SoftChalk lessons allow the use of text annotations to clarify meaning of unusual words used in a lesson. |

| Criteria | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations |
|--|-------------------|--|
| 3.1.4 Abbreviations (Level AAA) | | SoftChalk lessons allow the use of text annotations to clarify meaning of abbreviations used in a lesson. |
| 3.1.5 Reading Level (Level AAA) | Not applicable | The reading level of a SoftChalk lesson is determined by the content author. |
| 3.1.6 Pronunciation (Level AAA) | Does Not Support | |
| 3.2.5 Change on Request (Level AAA) | Supports | Changes of context of the lesson pages are only those initiated by the user. Links that open in a new tab or window are clearly identified in the lesson page. |
| 3.3.5 Help (Level AAA) | Does Not Support | |
| 3.3.6 Error Prevention (All) (Level AAA) | Does not Support | |

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