

SoftChalk Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5)

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

Report Date: March 2026

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.

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

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)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes)

Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2 [NEW]	Level A (Yes) Level AA (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.

Document Legend: [NEW] = New criterion added for VPAT 2.5 / WCAG 2.2 | [UPDATED] = Existing entry revised from 2021 version

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.

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

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.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Frames are not used in lessons. • All Interactive Activities 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	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.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Supports	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.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Supports	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.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Supports	<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.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authors can use headings and other structural page/lesson elements to designate structure and sequence. • 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 are able to access all areas of the lesson and progress in a logical and natural way through the content.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	Instructions and feedback do not rely solely upon shape, size, visual location or an audio sound.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Supports	<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.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Supports	Audio is not configured to play automatically on a page.

2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Partially Supports	Most lesson content and all interactive student activities are fully keyboard operable. Exceptions: <input type="checkbox"/> Rich Text Editor toolbar used in Essay/short-answer questions cannot be fully reached by keyboard <input type="checkbox"/> Media embedded within tooltips cannot be reached via keyboard or focus. Remediation is planned for a future release.
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 – WCAG 2.1)	Supports	Some interactive elements provide keyboard shortcuts that may 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. <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.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Supports	
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 and go directly to the main content area more efficiently.
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	SoftChalk lesson pages have descriptive html page titles.
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Partially Supports	Each lesson page has a logical tab order so that focus progresses logically through the lesson. Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> Media embedded in tooltips is not included in the focus order and cannot be reached via keyboard. Remediation is planned for a future release.
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 – WCAG 2.1)	Not Applicable	
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A – WCAG 2.1)	Not Applicable	
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A – WCAG 2.1)	Not Applicable	
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A – WCAG 2.1)	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.
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A – WCAG 2.2) [NEW]	Supports	SoftChalk lesson content does not include its own help mechanisms. Where navigational elements are included by the author, they appear in a consistent location across all lesson pages.
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	
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A – WCAG 2.2) [NEW]	Supports	SoftChalk lessons do not require users to re-enter previously submitted information within a session. Quiz and activity responses are stored and not re-requested from the user during the same session.
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) [UPDATED]	Supports	All lesson web pages are written to HTML5 specifications. Note: WCAG 2.2 has deprecated this criterion for HTML content, as modern browsers handle parsing errors consistently. SoftChalk lessons continue to be authored to valid HTML5 standards and this criterion is considered satisfied.
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)	Supports	Form elements 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

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.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA – WCAG 2.1)	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 – WCAG 2.1)	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) [UPDATED]	Supports	The visual contrast ratio of text and image 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 – WCAG 2.1)	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 – WCAG 2.1)	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 – WCAG 2.1)	Not Applicable	
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA – WCAG 2.1)	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) [UPDATED]	Supports	SoftChalk provides the 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 previous or next page).
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 purpose.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Partially Supports	It is visually apparent which element has keyboard focus as the user tabs through most of the page. Exception: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Toolbar controls in the Rich Text Editor (Essay/short-answer questions) display an insufficient or missing focus indicator. Remediation is planned for a future release.
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA – WCAG 2.2) [NEW]	Partially Supports	In most layouts, no sticky or fixed element fully obscures a focused component. Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Classic layout sticky header can overlap content at mobile/narrow widths <input type="checkbox"/> Vertical and Horizontal layout sidebars can overlap page content on small screens Remediation is planned for a future release.
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA – WCAG 2.2) [NEW]	Partially Supports	Drag-and-drop activities provide a keyboard-accessible alternative. However, for pointer (mouse/touch) users these activities currently require a click-and-drag motion and do not yet offer a single-pointer alternative (such as tap-to-place) as required by this criterion. Remediation is planned for a future release.
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA – WCAG 2.2) [NEW]	Partially Supports	Most interactive elements — including quiz buttons, navigation controls, and activity elements — meet the minimum target size of 24×24 CSS pixels. Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Rich Text Editor toolbar icons

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Essay toolbar buttons Remediation is planned for a future release.
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 through 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.
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA – WCAG 2.2) [NEW]	Not Applicable	SoftChalk lesson content does not implement its own authentication mechanism. Any authentication is handled at the platform layer, outside of the lesson content itself.
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA – WCAG 2.1)	Not Applicable	SoftChalk lessons do not use status messaging.

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