

# Accessibility statement for Turnitin

This statement is for the Turnitin, a similarity report detection software which can be assessed from the Blackboard VLE at <http://eat.tees.ac.uk>.

Turnitin is a third-party application forming one of the plugins into the Blackboard VLE. This service is run by Teesside University.

The University will strive to provide accessible lecture content, including the provision of appropriate alternative formats for students who have a Student Support Plan in place. The main ways in which we utilise Turnitin software are:

- Assignment submission by students
- Viewing similarity (i.e. plagiarism) reports
- Grading and providing annotated feedback by teaching staff
- Viewing grades and feedback by students

The accessibility features of Turnitin is updated by the vendors themselves:

## Feedback Studio:

- [Student Feedback Studio and Online Grading Interface VPAT \[PDF\]](#) (March 2019)
- [Student Content Management System Interface VPAT \[PDF\]](#) (March 2020)
- [Student Feedback Studio Text Only Similarity Report VPAT \[PDF\]](#) (April 2019)

## Turnitin Originality:

- [Turnitin Originality Report Interface VPAT \[PDF\]](#) (April 2020)

## Turnitin Similarity:

- [Turnitin Similarity Report Interface VPAT \[PDF\]](#) (April 2020)

We want as many people as possible to be able to use this plugin within their VLE.

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

## How accessible this website is

Extracted from Turnitin's website: <https://www.turnitin.com/about/accessibility>

Turnitin partnered with Level Access, experts in user accessibility and compliance, to produce a set of Voluntary Product Accessibility Templates (VPATs), which can be viewed by clicking the links below.

As we are committed to continually providing an accessible experience to our users, these VPATs represent a snapshot of our progress at the time of the report. Keep an eye on our [release notes pages](#) to keep up-to-date with our latest improvements.

## Feedback and Contact Information

If you are experiencing issues accessing content within a module please contact your module leader in the first instance.

If you need information on the VLE help pages in a different format, contact via email: [elearning@tees.ac.uk](mailto:elearning@tees.ac.uk).

The University will strive to provide accessible lecture content, including the provision of appropriate alternative formats such as transcripts for students who have a Student Support Plan in place. If you are a student with existing arrangements or reasonable adjustments, please contact Disability Services <https://libguides.tees.ac.uk/disability>

## **Reporting accessibility problems with this website**

We're always looking to improve the accessibility of the Blackboard VLE which hosts Turnitin as a plugin. If you find any problems not listed on this page or think we're not meeting accessibility requirements, contact via email: [elearning@tees.ac.uk](mailto:elearning@tees.ac.uk)

## **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). This website is fully compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 AA standard.

## **Contacting us by phone or visiting in person**

We provide a text relay service for people who are D/deaf, hearing impaired or have a speech impediment.

Address:  
Teesside University  
Middlesbrough  
Tees Valley  
TS1 3BX  
UK

## **Technical information about this website's accessibility**

Teesside University is committed to making its website accessible, in accordance with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

## **Compliance Status**

This Blackboard VLE is fully compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 AA standard.

## **Non accessible content**

Whilst Blackboard strives to adhere to the accepted guidelines and standards for accessibility and usability, it is not always possible to do so in all areas of the website. We note exceptions to meeting the accessibility standards and guidelines as follows:

- Pre-recorded audio and video content published before 23 September 2020
- Pre-recorded audio and video content is unlikely to be accompanied with a text alternative, captions, audio description or sign language interpretation.

This doesn't meet the following success criterion:

- (non-text content)
- 1.2.1 (audio-only and video-only - prerecorded)
- 1.2.2 (captions – prerecorded)
- 1.2.3 (audio description or media alternative - prerecorded)
- 1.2.5 (audio description - prerecorded)
- 1.2.6 (sign language - prerecorded)
- 1.2.7 (extended audio description - prerecorded)
- 1.2.8 (media alternative - prerecorded)

We do not plan to create a text alternative, captions, audio description or sign language interpretation to pre-recorded audio or video content that was published before 23 September 2020 but we do provide transcripts of recordings.

## **Non-compliance with accessibility regulations**

The Blackboard platform meets all of the minimum compliance regulations based on the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 AA standard.

## **Disproportionate burden**

No content

## **Content that's not within the scope of the accessibility regulations**

### **Live video**

Live video streams do not have captions. This fails WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.2.4 (captions - live).

We don't plan to create a text alternative, captions, audio description or sign language interpretation to pre-recorded audio or video content that was published before 23 September 2020 but we do provide transcripts of recordings.

## **How we tested this website**

This Blackboard VLE undergoes testing against the W3C WAI Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 using the automated Siteimprove tool. This tool scans our web pages, and tests against all the criteria in the guidelines.

We also conduct manual testing against known accessibility issues which are not able to be found through automated testing.

This Blackboard VLE was last tested on 18/09/2020. The test was carried out by Teesside University.

Our main website platform is available at: <http://eat.tees.ac.uk>

## **What we're doing to improve accessibility**

We are committed to ensuring that staff have access to continuing professional development (CPD) for developing an inclusive learning experience. Throughout 2020-2021 Student Learning and Academic Registry are continuing to:

- Embed accessibility skills within our existing CPD offer to all academic staff.
- Provide guidance and training on the creation of accessible learning resources.

# Preparation of this accessibility statement

This statement was prepared on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021. It was last reviewed on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

This Blackboard VLE was last tested on 18/09/2020. The test was carried out Teesside University.

The test was carried out internally, using a quality assurance tool across all pages as well as a manual check of a substantial and carefully chosen sample of pages and content types. This website undergoes testing against the W3C WAI Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 using the automated Siteimprove tool. This tool scans our web pages, and tests against all the criteria in the guidelines.

Our main website platform is available at: <http://eat.tees.ac.uk>