

Accessibility Statement for Coláiste Cholmcille

In accordance with S.I. No. 358/2020 - European Union (Accessibility of Websites and Mobile Applications of Public Sector Bodies) Regulations 2020

Website Covered:	https://ccbs.ie/
Public Body:	Coláiste Cholmcille, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal, Ireland
Status Date:	June 16, 2026
Compliance Level:	Partially Compliant (WCAG 2.1 / 2.2 Level AA)

1. Statement of Commitment

Coláiste Cholmcille is committed to making its website, <https://ccbs.ie/>, accessible in accordance with the European Union (Accessibility of Websites and Mobile Applications of Public Sector Bodies) Regulations 2020 (S.I. No. 358 of 2020).

We believe that educational services and information should be universally available to all audiences, regardless of technology, sensory capacity, physical ability, or cognitive capability. We are continually striving to improve the digital user experience for students, parents, staff, and the wider community by applying the relevant global accessibility metrics.

2. Compliance Status

This website is **partially compliant** with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 and WCAG 2.2 Level AA standards, due to the non-compliances and exemptions outlined below.

Partially compliant means that certain structural elements, historical document formats, or media integrations do not yet fully meet the strict technical thresholds of the universal design standard. Remediation efforts are ongoing.

3. Non-Accessible Content

We are actively addressing the following limitations on our website to ensure compliance. The elements listed below are currently non-accessible or represent technical areas where optimization is underway:

3.1. Non-Compliance with the Regulations

- **Portable Document Format (PDF) and Office Files:** Some legacy PDF or Word documents—such as older school policies, newsletters, or historical academic documentation—may lack proper structural heading elements, structural tags, or defined reading orders required by screen readers. This fails WCAG Success Criterion [1.3.1 \(Info and Relationships\)](#) and [4.1.2 \(Name, Role, Value\)](#).
- **Alternative Text for Images:** A small number of decorative or informational images uploaded historically may lack explicit or descriptive alternative text (alt attributes). This fails WCAG Success Criterion [1.1.1 \(Non-text Content\)](#).
- **Hyperlink Contextual Descriptors:** Certain historical links embedded within long-text pages may use ambiguous phrasing such as "click here" or "read more" instead of unique, descriptive, context-rich link text. This fails WCAG Success Criterion [2.4.4 \(Link Purpose - In Context\)](#).
- **Color Contrast Ratios:** In some design elements or third-party plug-ins, text combinations may exhibit a contrast ratio slightly lower than the mandated 4.5:1 ratio against their background. This fails WCAG Success Criterion [1.4.3 \(Contrast - Minimum\)](#).

3.2. Exemptions under the Regulations

- **Third-Party Content:** Our website may embed elements or features controlled entirely by third parties (such as custom map widgets, external portal plug-ins, or uncaptioned embedded video streams from third-party hosting networks). These are technically outside the scope of our development authority and are exempted where we cannot exert operational control.
- **Archived Materials:** Pre-existing files, media streams, and content published prior to September 23, 2018, that are not currently active or essential to administrative or educational procedures, are exempted under the 2020 Regulations.

4. Preparation and Evaluation Methodology

This accessibility statement was originally prepared and structured on **June 16, 2026**. It is subject to a mandatory annual review or whenever a comprehensive platform upgrade takes place.

The assessment of the website's conformity with the requirements of S.I. No. 358/2020 was conducted via a self-assessment audit by the school administration and web design team. This evaluation utilized a blend of standard manual testing across varying operating system layouts alongside automated validation software (including Axe-core extensions and the WCAG Contrast Checker) to systematically identify structural deficiencies.

5. Feedback, Content Requests, and Contact Information

We welcome your feedback on the digital accessibility of the Coláiste Cholmcille website. If you encounter any structural barriers, find information that is inaccessible, or require school documentation

provided in an alternative, accessible format (such as plain text, large print, or structured digital format), please contact our administrative team:

Coláiste Cholmcille Contact Details

Email: info@ccbs.ie

Phone: +353 (0)71 985 8288

Postal Address: Coláiste Cholmcille, College Street, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal, Ireland

Please specify: The exact web URL of the content, your preferred accessible format, your name, and your email address.

We aim to respond to all accessibility notifications, constructive feedback, or alternative content requests within five (5) business days of initial receipt.

6. Enforcement and Redress Procedure

The European Union (Accessibility of Websites and Mobile Applications of Public Sector Bodies) Regulations 2020 establish a formal mechanism for escalation if you receive an unsatisfactory or delayed response to your notification, feedback, or content request.

If you are dissatisfied with how Coláiste Cholmcille handles your query, you can escalate your complaint to the relevant statutory enforcement bodies under the **Disability Act 2005** and the **Equal Status Act 2000**:

- **Office of the Ombudsman:** For complaints concerning a public body's failure to comply with Section 25, 26, 27, or 28 of the Disability Act 2005. You can file an escalation via their website (www.ombudsman.ie), by emailing complaints@ombudsman.ie, or by writing directly to: *The Office of the Ombudsman, 6 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, D02 W773*.
- **Workplace Relations Commission (WRC):** For issues concerning broader discrimination or general equal access under the Equal Status Act 2000. Escalation pathways can be initiated via their website (www.workplacerelations.ie).