

Using small drones

Safety induction for drones that weigh less than 250 grams

Flying drones at Bristol

- The University operates a variety of drones and other Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) to carry out research and teaching.
- The regulations for flying drones in the UK are stringent and governed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).



Flying drones at Bristol

- The University has an overarching Operational Authority (OA) to fly drones and other UAVs.
- You must fly under the University Operator ID and not your own.



What you need to know about flying small drones at the University

- Your drone must weigh less than 250 grams.
- Your drone must be purchased from a commercial supplier.
- All your equipment must be UKCA or CE marked and accompanied by a declaration of conformity with UK electrical safety regulations.
- Your drone must not be modified in any way.
- You must not fly over a public space.
- You must have landowners permission granted and notify Security Services before each flight at the University.

What you need to know about flying small drones at the University (continued)

- You must ensure that a risk assessment has been undertaken.
- You or your pilot must be a member of staff or student and have a flyer ID issued by the UK Civil Aviation Authority.
- You must read, understand and comply with the [Drone Code](#).

What do I need to do before I fly?

- Apply to use the University's Operator ID.
- Label your drone with the University's Operator ID and your individual drone ID.
- Check and amend your risk assessment and gain local manager or supervisor approval.
- Register your CAA flyer ID on the [UAV log](#).
- Make sure you understand how to fly the drone safely and how to operate its included safety features such as 'return to home' and 'position hold'.

What do I need to do before I fly? (continued)

- Understand the weather limitations of your drone and only ever fly within the safe operating limits for the weather conditions on the day.



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An example of a
drone label

How to write a drone risk assessment

- You need to consider and mitigate for the following risks;
 - Specific operating limits of your drone
 - Checking drone batteries before flight
 - Location and weather
 - Take-off and landing site
 - Obstructions and proximity to buildings
 - Uninvolved people, animals or vehicles
 - Equipment malfunction.



Important things to remember

- Check your drone condition, controller and batteries before flying.
- Parts of the Clifton campus are on the Air Ambulance flight path to the roof of the BRI.
- Avoid flying over people and animals.
- Always fly in a direct line of sight.
- A risk assessment must have been completed.
- Log all your flights on the [UAV log](#).

Useful links

- [Safety and Health Services Drone Operations](#)
- [Drone Safety SharePoint site](#)
- [University Unmanned Aerial Vehicle \(UAV\) log](#)
- [CAA Drone Code](#)
- [CAA Flyer ID Code application](#)
- [UAS Operations Manual](#)