

## Basics

If you fly a model aircraft of any weight as an LMA member using the authorisation you are both the operator and the pilot and must:

- Register as an operator with the CAA
- Have remote pilot competence
- Have an additional authorisation for each model over 25kg MTOM

## Minimum Ages

- Pilot:
  - To fly solo - 10 years
  - If under 10, must be supervised by a pilot 14 years or over who has pilot competence
- Operator - 18 years (if under 18, you will need someone to register on your behalf)

## Height Limit

- All models are limited to 400ft above the ground, except:
  - Fixed wing & single rotor helicopters up to 7.5kg MTOM - no height limit
  - Glider 7.5kg to 14kg MTOM - limited to 400ft above the pilot
- Model must remain in visual line of sight to maintain control and avoid other aircraft

**Warning** - above 500ft there is an increased risk of meeting manned aircraft, so be extra vigilant

## Separation Distances

- 250g - 7.5kg MTOM, keep models at least:
  - 30m horizontally from assemblies of people
  - 30m from any uninvolved person
  - 15m from any uninvolved person for take-off and landing with supporting risk assessment
- 7.5kg - 25kg MTOM, keep models at least:
  - 50m horizontally from assemblies of people
  - 50m from any uninvolved person
  - 30m from any uninvolved person for take-off and landing with supporting risk assessment

## Pilot Responsibilities

- Only fly the model aircraft if reasonably satisfied that the flight can be safely made
- Do not fly when tired, injured, drunk or on drugs
- Make sure aircraft is in a safe condition to fly
- Check for any airspace limitations before flying
- Make sure the flying location is suitable for the model and meets the conditions of the authorisation
- Keep the model in sight at all times in flight (unless following the FPV rules)

## Operator Responsibilities

- Mark aircraft with registration ID
- Maintain and repair all aircraft so they are safe to be flown

## Reporting if it all goes wrong

You must report to the AAIB:

- Accidents
- Serious Incidents

You must report to the CAA:

- Serious Incidents or Other Occurrences which involve any of the following:
  - Fatality
  - Serious Injury
  - Manned aircraft
  - Flying above 400ft
  - Flying less than 50m from uninvolved people
- Any instances of flight beyond the visual line of sight of the remote pilot

## Airspace

- To fly in a flight restriction zone around an airfield you must have the relevant permission
- Flight restriction zones map is at <https://dronesafe.uk/restrictions/>

## FPV, Free Flight & Control Line

The rules are slightly different, see the LMA handbook or the full authorisation for details

## Open Category

If you do not want to fly under the authorisation, you can fly models under 25kg MTOM in the Open category, see CAP722 for the applicable rules

## Definitions in the Authorisation

- Assemblies of people - where there are enough people that any of them could not get out of the way if they needed to
- Uninvolved person - somebody who is not involved in the flight & not aware of instructions or safety precautions given by the operator
- MTOM - the weight of the model ready to fly with all equipment installed, all batteries fitted & all fuel tanks full
- Model Aircraft – an unmanned aircraft which is flown 'manually' using traditional control inputs and with no flight control automation other than flight stabilisation, flown for sport, recreation, education or demonstration purposes