

## DRONE USE POLICY

Policy number	7	Version	1
Drafted by	Marios Gavalas	Approved by Board on	13 June 2022
Responsible person	Sky Davies	Scheduled review date	June 2025

### Who can fly the TET drone?

The TET drone is for use by the Evaluation and Monitoring Coordinator. Any other users must be authorised by the Evaluation and Monitoring Coordinator and have undergone appropriate training. This may call for external expertise.

The TET drone is insured under current TET policies and any deviation from this policy will render the insurance cover invalid. **Any damages to the drone or external property will be the responsibility of the pilot, if unauthorised to use the drone.**

Any person flying the TET drone must first have read and understood this policy, including the links.

All information below taken from [Drone Laws](#)

### UAS Laws – General rules for flying drones in New Zealand

When flying unmanned aircraft, you need to follow the [Part 101 rules](#). If you cannot follow the rules outlined below, you must apply for a [Part 102 certification](#).

### Before you fly

- Aircraft must NOT exceed 25kg and must always be safe to operate and well maintained.
- You must take steps to minimize hazards to people, property, and other aircraft.
- Only fly during daylight unless you are doing a [shielded operation](#).
- Give way to all crewed aircraft, e.g., planes, helicopters, hang gliders, and paragliders. Land your aircraft immediately if another aircraft approaches.
- You must be able to see your unmanned aircraft with your own eyes at all times. Don't watch it through binoculars, a monitor, or a smartphone. Also, do not fly it behind objects or through or above fog and clouds.
- Fly below 120 meters (400 feet) above ground level.
- Get consent before flying over people and property.
- There are several no-fly zones – check for any airspace restrictions in your area before you fly.

More information can be found in this brochure [Share the skies – drone rules brochure \[PDF 565 KB\]](#)

## Where can you fly?

- Airspace can be designated as controlled or special use airspace.
- Controlled airspace is where there is a need for an air traffic control service for the safety and efficiency of aircraft operations. Special use airspace includes restricted areas, military operating areas, mandatory broadcast zones, volcanic hazard zones, danger areas, and low flying zones.
- Maps showing the boundaries of controlled and other special use airspaces, called Visual Navigation Charts (VNC), are available for purchase from the [Aeronautical Information Shop\(external link\)](#). In addition, you can view these electronically on the [AirShare\(external link\)](#) website.
- You may be able to fly in controlled airspace by obtaining air traffic control clearance from Airways. You can request this authorization through AirShare using the [My Flights\(external link\)](#) tool.
- You don't need authorization from air traffic control if you can conduct your flight as a [shielded operation](#).
- Stay 4 km away from all aerodromes – unless you've got clearance from the aerodrome operator. See [Aerodromes section](#) for other conditions.
- Do not fly in special use airspace without the permission of the administering authority. For example, military operating areas or restricted areas.
- It's safer NOT to fly over people. However, if you need to, only fly above people if you have asked for their [consent](#).
- Get the consent of the property owner or person in charge of the land you want to fly over.
- Check with your local council or the Department of Conservation before flying in public places like parks and reserves. Your regional council's website, for example, will have information about drone use in your area. You must apply for a permit from the Department of Conservation to fly over conservation land.
- [Drone use on conservation land\(external link\)](#)

## The most important rules to know for flying a drone in New Zealand

- Drones must weigh no more than 25 kilograms (55 pounds), and drone pilots must ensure that their drones are safe to fly before taking flight.
- Drone pilots must always take reasonable precautions to avoid endangering persons, property, or other aircraft (i.e., do not fly recklessly).
- Drones are only permitted to fly during daylight hours.
- Drones must yield to crewed aircraft at all times.
- At all times, drone pilots must maintain a direct visual line of sight with their drones.

- Drones are not permitted to fly higher than 120 meters (394 feet) above the ground.
- Drone pilots must be familiar with the airspace restrictions that apply to the area in which they operate.
- A drone may not be flown within a radius of four kilometers (2.5 miles) of an aerodrome.
- Drone pilots must obtain an air traffic control clearance from Airways to fly in controlled airspace.
- Drone pilots are not permitted to operate in special use airspace without the permission of the area's administering authority (e.g., military operating areas or restricted areas).
- Drone pilots must obtain consent before flying over an individual.
- Before flying over property or area, drone pilots must obtain the consent of the property owner or person in charge.
- Consult your local council or the Department of Conservation before flying over public areas such as parks and reserves.
- Avoid flying a drone near marine life. Under the 1992 Marine Mammals Protection Regulations, no aircraft shall be closer than 150 meters (500 feet) horizontally from a point directly above any marine mammal when operating at less than 600 meters (2,000 feet) above sea level.

#### [Useful published information on flying drones in New Zealand](#)

Here is a useful introduction video by [CAANZ and Airshare NZ](#) on flying a drone legally in New Zealand...

Traveling with a Drone?

Click here to read our [Comprehensive Guide For Traveling With A Drone](#)