

Beginner Drone Pilot Guide 2026 Including Summer Scheme – Student & Parent Information Drone Pilot Training Academy – Carryduff, Northern Ireland

Welcome

Welcome to **Drone Pilot Training Academy**.

This programme gives students a safe, structured, and exciting introduction to drone flying.

Our focus is simple: **teach safe, legal, and confident drone operation from day one**.


Flying a drone is more than a hobby — it's a responsibility. Every student is trained to the same safety-first mindset used in aviation. **A separate Parent/Guardian student Permission to Fly Slip must be signed, dated, and returned prior to attendance.**

Before You Attend (Legal Requirements)

To take part, the following are required:

1. Flyer ID (Student Requirement)

- Free online test (approx. 10 minutes)
- Valid for 5 years
- Required for most drones with a camera
- Children can complete with support from a parent/guardian

 This is the student's legal permission to fly.

2. Operator ID (Parent/Guardian)

- **£12.34 per year** Must be displayed on the drone
- Covers multiple drones
- Must be held by someone aged 18+

 This is the legal responsibility for the drone.

3. Drone Insurance (Mandatory for Training)

To ensure full safety and compliance:

Parents/guardians must:


- Arrange drone insurance
- Email certificate to: **enquiries@dronepilotdeploy.com**
- Ensure it covers training/recreational use

! Students **cannot fly without valid insurance**

Core Drone Safety Rules (UK Drone Code)

All students must follow these rules:

- Maximum height: **120 metres (400ft)**
- Always keep the drone in sight
- Stay well clear of people and crowds
- Maintain safe distances (typically 50m)
- Do not fly near airports or restricted areas
- Respect privacy and wildlife

 These rules are reinforced during every session.

Safety Mindset

Students are taught to think like responsible pilots:

- Always assess surroundings before flying
- Never take unnecessary risks
- Be prepared for unexpected situations

Simple Rule:

 **Fly away from people and into the wind**

This ensures that if anything goes wrong, the drone moves away from others.

Learning to Fly (Real Skills)

Modern drones have automatic features — but we teach **real control skills**.

Students will learn:

- Safe take-off and landing
- Controlled flight movements
- Maintaining stability
- Situational awareness

What Happens if Something Goes Wrong?

Students are trained to recognise issues such as:

- Warning lights or alerts
- Signal loss
- Drone drifting unexpectedly

Basic Emergency Actions:

1. Stay calm
2. Take control manually
3. Check surroundings and wind
4. Land safely in a clear area

Airspace Awareness

Northern Ireland includes restricted airspace such as:

- Airports
- Prisons
- Sensitive locations

Students will learn how to:

- Identify safe flying areas
- Use simple tools to check airspace

- Make safe decisions before take-off

Inclusive for All Students


We are fully committed to accessibility and inclusion.

Wheelchair Users

- Flat, open training ground
- Seated flying supported
- Adapted take-off/landing areas

Students with Additional Needs

- Step-by-step instruction
- Visual demonstrations
- One-to-one support available
- Quiet areas if required

 Parents/carers are always welcome on-site.

Safe Training Environment

All sessions take place in a controlled setting:

- Private training area
- No public access
- No traffic or hazards
- Fully supervised at all times
- Emergency procedures in place

What Students Should Bring

- Flyer ID
- Operator ID
- Insurance certificate
- Drone (if they own one)

- Fully charged batteries
- Comfortable outdoor clothing

Our Commitment

At Drone Pilot Training Academy, we provide:

- Safe, structured learning
- Professional instruction
- Confidence-building training
- Real-world flying skills
- A supportive, inclusive environment

Final Message

Our goal is simple:

 **Help every student become a safe, confident drone pilot**

By the end of the programme, students will:

- Understand the law
- Fly safely and responsibly
- Build real confidence with drones

Drone Pilot Training Academy – Carryduff

Training the next generation of safe, skilled drone pilots