

Use of Drones on School Property (from an outside entity)

Compliance with FAA Registration and Regulations

- Confirm that all drones are registered with the FAA if required.
- Ensure that all drone operators hold the appropriate FAA certification (e.g., Part 107 Remote Pilot Certificate for commercial use).

Adherence to the School's Drone Policy

• Require the outside group to review and agree to follow the school's drone policy, including operational restrictions, safety protocols, and permitted flight areas.

Flight Plan and Operational Details

- Request a written flight plan, including takeoff and landing zones, flight paths, maximum altitude, and the purpose of the flights.
- Verify that drones will not fly over people, unless the operation meets FAA guidelines for flights over people.

Supervision and Student Interaction

- Clarify the level of interaction between students and drone operators.
- Require the presence of school staff to supervise activities.

Data Collection and Privacy Protections

- Confirm whether drones will be recording video, capturing images, or collecting data.
- Require compliance with FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) if students could be identified in any recordings.
- Obtain written assurance that any images or recordings taken on school property will not be used without school approval.

Weather and Environmental Considerations

- Ensure that operations will follow FAA weather requirements, including visibility and wind speed limitations.
- Confirm that drones will not be flown near power lines, wildlife, or other sensitive areas.

Safety and Emergency Procedures

- Ask for a risk assessment detailing potential hazards and mitigation strategies.
- Require a plan for handling crashes, malfunctions, or other emergencies.

VSBIT Multi-Line Resources on Drones for Schools:

Drones Unmanned Aircraft Registration

VSBIT Drone Policy Template