

CAA Drone Field Data Sheet: Sub-250g Operations

Feature	Regulation & Guideline
Drone Weight	Below 250g (e.g., DJI Neo 2).
Category	Open Category, Sub-category A1 (Over People).
Overflight	You may fly over uninvolved individuals.
Crowd Ban	You must never fly over a crowd, regardless of drone weight.
Separation	No mandatory horizontal buffer from uninvolved people (though safe separation is still required).
Maximum Altitude	120m (400ft) from the closest point of the Earth's surface.
Registration	Requires Operator ID (affixed to drone) and Flyer ID (since it has a camera and is 100g+).

Distinguishing "Crowds" vs. "Groups"

The CAA defines a **crowd** based on *density and mobility* rather than a specific number of people. This distinction is the core of your operational safety and legality.

1. The Crowd (Prohibited Overflight)

A crowd is defined as any assembly of people who **cannot move away quickly** because of the density around them.

- **Key Indicators:** High packing density; restricted movement (e.g., people seated in tight rows, blocked pathways, or packed standing areas).
- **Examples:** Fetes, festivals, sports events, marches, shopping areas at peak times, religious/political gatherings.
- **Risk:** If the drone malfunctions, the individuals below lack the physical space to safely disperse.

2. Uninvolved People/Groups (Permitted Overflight)

This refers to individuals or small, dispersed clusters of people who have the **freedom of movement** to scatter or step aside if necessary.

- **Key Indicators:** Low density; clear space to move in any direction; individuals are not "packed" together.
- **Examples:** Families spread out on a lawn, individuals walking along a path, scattered clusters of people holding drinks, a few people standing by a stall.
- **Risk:** The individuals have situational awareness and the physical freedom to immediately move away from the drone's path.