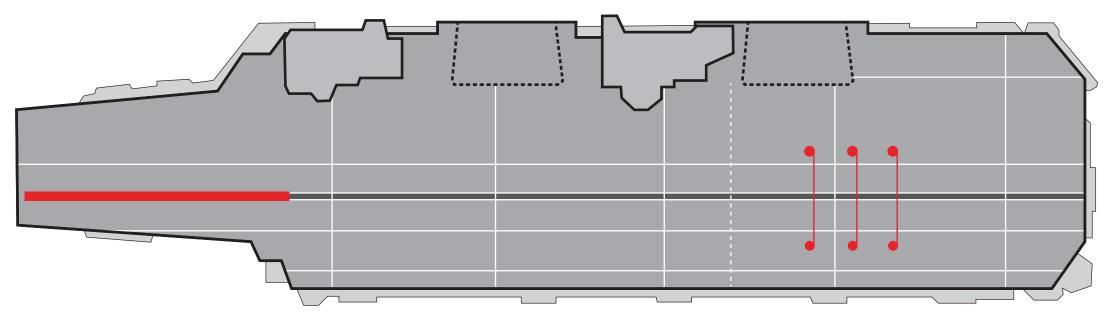


Pros: Requires minimal fight deck reconfiguration work and mimimises interference with VSTOL flying and allows almost simultaneous launches. **Cons**: Cramped space between forward island and ramp may restrict aircraft movements, depending on VIXEN wingspan

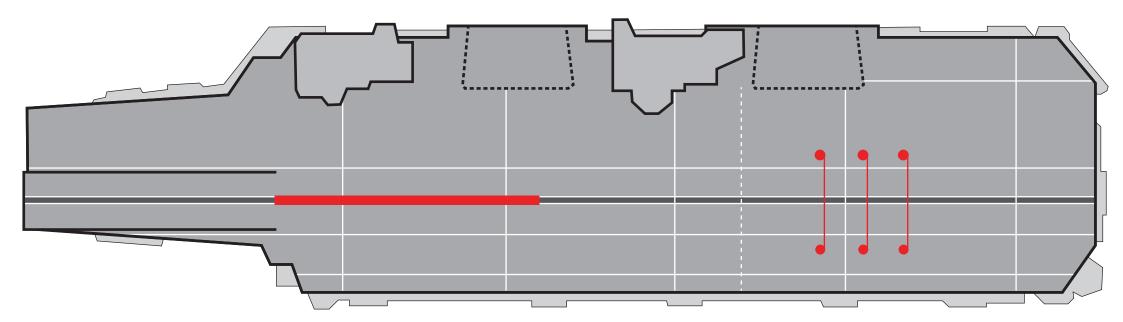
Option 2 - Catapault replaces ski ramp



Pros: Only requires ramp removal and provides plenty of space for launch and retains plenty of space to park aircraft on deck.

Cons: F-35B loses safety and load benefits of ramp-launch. Only one aircraft/UAS can be launched at a time

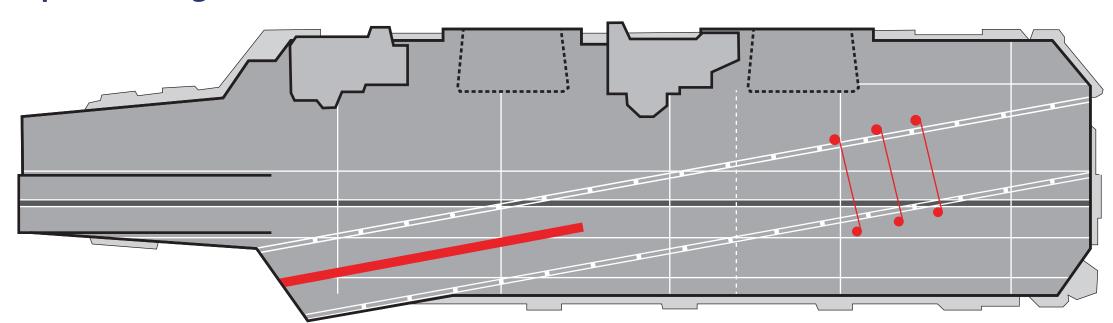
Option 3 - Catapault before ski ramp



Pros: Requires least fight deck reconfiguration work and retains plenty of space to park aircraft on deck.

Cons: Only one aircraft/UAS can be launched at a time. UAS may need to be strengthened to withstand forces generated by cat and ramp launch.

Option 4 - Angled deck



Pros: Safest recovery as allows bolters failing to catch arrestor wire to take off again (not a problem for autonomous aircraft?) **Cons**: Requires substantial reconfiguration of flight deck and new steelwork. Ramp retained but layout may conflict with VSTOL/RW flying