



Straits Primary School
Longfellow Road
Lower Gornal
Dudley
West Midlands
DY3 3EE

Email: info@straits.dudley.sch.uk
www.straitsprimaryschool.com

Head Teacher: Mr P. Freear
Chair of Governors: Mr L. Bourne

Monday 14th September 2026

Dear parents and carers

As you will be aware, each school is required to track and monitor pupils' attendance. Last year, we changed the way we approach attendance at Straits making it our priority to ensure that every child and family receives the support they need to engage positively with school and achieve the best possible outcomes. As part of this commitment, we worked in partnership with *Inclusive Attendance* – this was a real success as our overall attendance for the year was 96.1% (with the national average being 94.7%). Thank you for your role in achieving this.

Our approach continues to be based on an inclusive model of attendance, with a clear focus on ensuring that children, families and staff understand the part they each play in promoting good attendance. By working together, we can encourage regular attendance, support children to engage fully in their learning, and identify and respond to any difficulties that may prevent them from attending school consistently.

We are therefore continuing our Multi-Tiered System of Support. This approach provides different levels of support according to the needs of each child and family. Our universal offer provides support for everyone, while Tier 2 offers additional family-help support for children who may need further assistance. Where more intensive support is required, Tier 3 provides access to more specialist services and resources for identified children and families.

Clear and consistent communication with families remains an important part of our approach at Straits. As part of this, attendance will continue to be communicated in terms of the number of days of school missed. We believe this will make attendance information easier to understand and provide children and families with a clearer picture of how missed days can affect learning and educational progress.

We are also making a change to the way we recognise positive attendance. Our class attendance cup will be awarded each Monday and the children will then select a 'prize' for the winning class. We will also continue our recognition-based approach identifying those families who make a clear improvement.

Through these approaches, we aim to build a positive and inclusive culture of attendance at Straits. Attendance is a shared responsibility, and by working together as a school community, we can ensure that every child is supported to attend, engage in their learning and make the most of their educational opportunities.

<https://www.straitsprimaryschool.com/attendance>

Yours sincerely

Mr. P. Freear
Head Teacher

