



iSP International
Schools
Partnership

Friday November 14th 2025,

Dear parents,

We very deliberately insist on high standards of both attendance and punctuality at Straits International School Rawang. Our expectation for students is that they will achieve 95% or higher attendance over the course of each academic year, and we also expect that students arrive to school on time each morning.

The best schools are places where timings are adhered to strictly, not only because this is how academic timetables work but also so that drop-off, pick-up, break & lunch routines are effective. Rules, clearly, are important in this regard, and our students perform fantastically well each day in terms of moving around our building in a timely and safe manner.

Our timings, of course, are as follows: school starts each morning at 07.45, but students are able to arrive from 07.00; pick-up on Monday & Friday is at 14.30; pick-up for primary students on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday if they don't have a CCA is 14.30, but 15.15 if they do; pick-up for secondary students on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday if they don't have a CCA is 15.15, but 16.05 if they do.

Lateness adds up. If a student is 5 minutes late for school every day, then that's 25 minutes a week, or 150 minutes a half-term (2 ½ hours), or around 1000 minutes over the course of an academic year, which is almost 17 hours of lateness. If the young people in our collective care are going to be as successful as we would like them to be, then such ineffective habits just won't work.

The average student attendance so far this academic year is 90%. This falls short of our expected standard, but I would accept that there may be some reasons for this at this stage of term one, such as the recent waves of illness which have affected many schools across Kuala Lumpur and its neighbouring areas since August 2025. I also know that it can be challenging for parents to balance a desire to send their children to school each day and a responsibility to protect both them and others from any current

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**GROWING,
TOGETHER**

A decorative graphic consisting of several colored circles in shades of red, yellow, green, and pink, arranged in a cluster to the right of the 'GROWING, TOGETHER' text.

bouts of illness. From my perspective, it is clear that our Straits International School Rawang parent community is highly committed to doing what is right from both educational and health viewpoints.

It may be important for parents to also note that clear links have been by educationalists between attendance and academic performance. For example, 90% of students with absence rates below 85% fail to achieve five or more good (this means C or above) grades at IGCSE level and around one third of this group achieve no IGCSEs at all. Similarly, students with no absence at all are over twice as likely to achieve five good grades at IGCSE level.

We have also worked a great deal on staff attendance recently. This time last year, this was a concern for our school – because students learn best when their teachers are present – but I am delighted to note now that our current staff attendance figure for the academic year to date is over 96%. This is a significant improvement on the 2024/2025 academic year, and it highlights the commitment of our teachers to high standards of professional behaviour.

As always, if any parents would like to contact me about any of the points above, or indeed about any other issues, then you are always welcome to do so via the email address below.

Yours sincerely,



Steven Miles.
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