Students at Emu Point will have new school facilities later this month, following a $1.3 million investment by the Territory Government.

Minister for Employment, Education and Training Syd Stirling said the new school was part of Government’s ongoing commitment to improve education facilities throughout the Territory.

“Until now, students and teachers at Emu Point have been going to school in nothing more than a shed made from bush timber and corrugated iron,” he said.

“Proper classrooms, ablution facilities and teachers’ accommodation in the community will help to improve local students’ educational outcomes.

“Meanwhile, construction of a new school on Croker Island will begin this month after Mamaruni School at the community was destroyed by Cyclone Ingrid. A $2 million contract for construction of the new facility was awarded last month.

“Manyallaluk community will see its new school, consisting of a double classroom and early childhood facilities, completed this month. It will mean that students will no longer have to travel 50 kilometres over dirt roads each day to get to school.

“Construction of new school facilities, including classrooms, ablution facilities and teacher accommodation will begin soon at Donydji and Marpurru in North East Arnhem Land.

“At Wadeye, the community is working on the design of a new secondary school there at a cost of more than $2 million.”

Mr Stirling said Government would continue its program of upgrading and replacing school infrastructure.

“As well as providing upgraded facilities in remote communities, we will continue to respond to emerging needs in urban schools such as Woodroffe and Durack,” Mr Stirling said.

“And to ensure we are able to continue addressing infrastructure needs and prioritise the work to be done, we have commissioned an assessment of each school facility.

“After being left to run down over many years, this work will allow us to put in place a more systematic approach to addressing infrastructure needs in both urban and rural schools.

“Building better school facilities means better results for our students.”

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