$21.3 million over four years for Jobs Plan initiatives and a record Employment, Education and Training budget of $658 million across the Territory will see a major boost to education services in Central Australia as part of Budget 2007.

“Jobs Plan 3 will provide more skills and training for Central Australians, making them work ready for employers,” Minister for Employment, Education and Training, Paul Henderson said.

“There are now over 3300 Territorians in training, an increase of 50 per cent since 2001.

“Of those, 625 are from the Alice Springs region with more than half in traditional trade apprenticeships.

“The Government will also fund Charles Darwin University $45 million, with $9.5 million allocated to the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education.

“Both Institutions have campuses in Alice Springs and they are will continue to receive funding to deliver training in the Alice Springs region,” Minister Henderson said.

EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE - ROSS PARK PRIMARY UPGRADE STARTED

Budget 2007 will facilitate the start of the Ross Park Primary school upgrade, with an initial $1 million to be spent on improving student facilities.

“This comes on top of extensive work at Centralian College as part of the Middle Schools upgrade program,” Minister Henderson said.

“The Budget also includes minor new works for Bradshaw Primary school with around $50 000 for improvements for students with a disability attending the school.

“Braitling Primary School will also receive funds for minor upgrades.

“There will be $8.1 million for the next stage of the Desert People’s Centre, in addition to $7.5 million for ongoing work,” Minister Henderson said.
REGIONAL EDUCATION BUDGET

Budget 2007 includes $15.8 million for secondary education in Alice Springs for Anzac Hill Middle School, Alice Springs Middle School, and Centralian Senior Secondary College.

“Primary schooling and early childhood education in seven urban schools based in Alice Springs will receive $23.7 million,” Minister Henderson said.

“$20.7 million will be provided for early childhood, primary and secondary education services in 28 schools in the Central Australian region.

“This is a strong budget for Employment, Education and Training in Alice Springs and throughout Central Australia.

“It will boost jobs, growth and lifestyle for all Central Australian residents,” Minister Henderson said.

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