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2006 Years 3, 5 and 7 Literacy Results Available

Education Minister Marion Scrymgour said today that the 2006 National Reading, Writing and Numeracy Benchmark results for Years 3, 5 and 7 students were now available on the web.

Ms Scrymgour said the Multilevel Assessment Program (MAP) results were compared nationally by location, being classified as metropolitan, provincial, remote or very remote.

Darwin/Palmerston is considered provincial, Katherine and Alice Springs are classified as remote and the rest of the Northern Territory as very remote. All other capital cities are classified as Metropolitan.

“When results are compared by location, Darwin/Palmerston students are achieving comparable results to other states and in some cases higher than many other Australian states for numeracy and reading for all year levels (3, 5 and 7),” Ms Scrymgour said.

“The percentage of Year 7 Darwin/Palmerston students’ achievement is higher than other provincial schools in other states (NSW, Vic, Qld, WA, Tas) and higher than the Australian national average for Metropolitan schools.

“In numeracy, Year 3 Darwin/Palmerston students’ achievement is comparable to provincial schools in NSW and Victoria and better than the other provincial schools in other states.”

Ms Scrymgour said the results also showed more work was needed to improve outcomes for Indigenous students – with results markedly lower in remote and very remote communities which face language and remoteness challenges.

“We acknowledge this and that’s why we’re working in partnership with the Federal Government to improve education, as well as health, employment and housing in remote communities,” she said.

The report can be found at http://www.mceetya.edu.au

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