TWO NEW SCHOOLS FOR PALMERSTON

The Northern Territory Government will spend $48.8 million to build two new schools in the Palmerston suburb of Rosebery as part of its long-term education plan for the growing city.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson and Education Minister Marion Scrymgour made the announcement today while visiting the site of Rosebery’s future primary and middle schools on the corner of Forrest Parade and Belyuen Road.

“Palmerston is the Territory’s second largest centre and one of Australia’s fastest growing towns,” Mr Henderson said.

“I am committed to ensuring our schools and students are the best they can be.

“Our long-term education plan will ensure Palmerston families have access to the best possible education facilities for their children.

“Following the construction of the two new schools in Rosebery, additional primary schools will be built in Palmerston East, including the planned suburb of Zuccoli, as these areas develop.”

The new Rosebery primary school will cater for 600 students and the middle school will have capacity for 850 students.

The schools will be built on the same site and will share a gymnasium and oval.

Budget 08 will deliver $9.5 million for headworks at the site and both Rosebery schools will be ready for the 2011 school year.

Education Minister, Marion Scrymgour, said the Government was delivering a record school infrastructure and upgrade program.

“In addition to the Roseberry schools headworks, Budget 08 delivers $9.5 million investment in upgrades and new buildings at seven schools in Darwin and Alice Springs,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“An extra $1.7 million will support special needs students and children with behavioural and emotional difficulties to give teachers greater support and help achieve better learning outcomes for the entire class,” she said.

“The Northern Territory is the best place to live, work and raise a family – my Government’s long term planning and investment in schools will make it even better,” said Mr Henderson.