A record education, employment and training budget of $719 million will deliver more schools and better facilities to improve education outcomes across the Territory.

Education Minister, Marion Scrymgour, said the Henderson Government was delivering for Territory families by investing more in education.

“Budget 2008’s record spend of $719 million will deliver more classrooms, teachers and education resources across the Territory,” she said.

“This is a 51% increase since 2001, and over that time the number of staff in, or directly supporting, Territory schools has increased by 300.

“We want Territory kids to be schooled in the best possible learning environment so we are delivering more teachers, better school buildings and facilities.”

NEW SCHOOLS FOR PALMERSTON

“Two new schools will be built in Rosebery to cater for 1,450 students at a cost of $48.8 Million,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“Palmerston is one of the fastest growing cities in Australia and the new primary and middle school will ensure they have first class education facilities.

“Budget 2008 delivers $9.5 million for the headworks construction of the new schools.”

UPGRADES TO URBAN SCHOOLS

- $9.5 million will be allocated in Budget 2008 for new building programs at Alawa, Jingili, Leanyer, Malak, Nakara and Ross Park Primary Schools
UPGRADES TO REMOTE SCHOOLS

- Budget 2008 will deliver a $10.2 million upgrade program under Closing the Gap. Communities that will receive school facility upgrades include Alekarenge, Alparra, Ngukurr, Ramingining, Yilara, Yirrkala and Yuendumu.

CLOSING THE GAP

‘Under Closing the Gap, Budget 2008 will deliver $17.7 million to improve educational outcomes for Indigenous Territorians,” Ms Scrymgour said.

- $10.2 million will be provided for school upgrades.
- $7.5 million for recurrent initiatives including $1.5 million for additional teachers in remote communities, $1.5 million for new mobile pre-schools to service remote communities and an education campaign about the value of schooling.

MORE FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Budget 2008 delivers an extra $1.7 million for special needs students.

This will deliver more one-on-one support and specialist facilities for children with intellectual disabilities and behavioural and emotional difficulties. New positive learning centres will be established in Palmerston and Alice Springs, as well as a new learning centre for students with autism in Palmerston.

“The Henderson Government is committed to delivering for Territory families by investing more in education resources and facilities,” Ms Scrymgour said.

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