Delivering Special Education

The Education Minister Paul Henderson has announced the Territory Government will invest $30 million over five years to build and upgrade special schools across the Northern Territory.

Mr Henderson said the $30 million is additional to $3.65 million already committed to manage the growth in the Territory’s special education needs.

Mr Henderson made the announcement while visiting the construction site of the new school in Rosebery.

“The Government recognises that special education schools and annexes need a significant revamp – we have delivered that today. Most importantly, this investment will see a new school built in our fastest growing community of Palmerston, which will cater for up to 100 students over two stages,” he said.

“Funds will also be directed at upgrading Nemarluk School in Ludmilla and Acacia Hills School in Alice Springs – both in need of major refurbishment. Each will receive $5.6 million including money currently allocated to the schools.

This plan will also deliver refurbished and modernised classrooms, hydrotherapy pools and better general facilities across special education schools.

“We are also committing to the building of a further special needs annexe in the rural area in 2013-14.

“This Government is committed to providing the infrastructure and services needed to manage the growth of the Territory. Our Smart Territory strategy is also committed to providing quality infrastructure to support the diverse needs of Territory students.”

The funding will be split between:

The new special school in Palmerston – $10 million
Nemarluk School at Ludmilla - $5.6 million
Acacia Hills in Alice Springs - $5.6 million
Special needs annexe in the Darwin rural area - $3 million
Henbury Avenue School in Wanguri - $2.85 million
Kintore Street School in Katherine - $2.55 million
Palmerston High School’s special education unit - $2 million
Woodroffe Primary School’s special education unit - $2 million

Mr Henderson made the announcement ahead of leaving for Perth to attend three Ministerial Council meetings with Police and Emergency Ministers from around the country.