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Building Better Special Schools

The Territory Government is investing $30 million over five years to build a new special school and upgrade existing facilities to cater for special teaching and learning needs across the Territory.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson said delivering better facilities for special school students was vital to support the Territory’s growing population.

“We have a growing population which is seeing a need to increase facilities to cater for the diverse teaching and learning needs of our Territory students,” Mr Henderson said.

“To meet the demand we will be building a new $10 million school in Palmerston that will provide tailored and specialist education services for up to 100 students.

“We are also upgrading our existing schools that offer specialised programs to meet the needs of children with disabilities and unique learning needs.

“Building better schools is a key component of our Smart Territory strategy to help our students achieve good learning outcomes.

“Nemarluk School in Ludmilla will receive $3 million in 2010-11 to improve facilities.

“This will include a new learning facility specifically catering for the early years of education, improved access to student drop off and bus areas, site works and expanding the administration facilities.

“Acacia Hills School in Alice Springs will also receive $2.8 million in upgrades in 2010-11.

“A tender to complete the master plan for the schools upgrades will be awarded soon and it will include new classrooms with specialised facilities, refurbishment of existing buildings and upgrading the drop-off zone.

“Budget 2010 will invest $1 million into the Henbury Avenue School with a new permanent classrooms facility.

“Students and staff at Henbury will benefit from the new classrooms being built,” Mr Henderson said.

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