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No School, No Service to start in Palmerston

The No School No Service initiative was launched in Palmerston today to help boost school attendance.

Chief Minister, Paul Henderson said this initiative sends a clear message to students that school attendance is important.

“Businesses, schools and government are working together to boost school attendance in Palmerston,” Mr Henderson said.

“Participating businesses agree not to serve students when they should be at school unless they are with a responsible adult or have an official school leave pass.

“We know that shopping centres have always been popular areas for students to gather and this initiative sends a clear message that truancy is not tolerated,” Mr Henderson said.

Minister for Education and Training, Chris Burns said a new attendance strategy will be released soon aiming to boost school attendance across the Territory.

“We know children need to go to school every day in order to get the best possible education,” Mr Burns said.

“To boost school attendance the efforts of government and schools alone won’t achieve it – we need the support of parents, families and the community.

“No School No Service is now operating in Alice Springs and Katherine, and we have seen the community of Hermannsburg also establish a successful program.

“I’ll be writing to businesses that have not signed up to the program to encourage them to participate.

“I thank the participating businesses, the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Palmerston and Police for support No School No Service in Palmerston,” Dr Burns said.

Mayor Robert Macleod said the City of Palmerston fully supports this initiative and will continue to work with the NT Government to achieve positive outcomes for the students of Palmerston.

For more information on this program or how to get involved, call the Department of Education and Training on (08) 8999 3553.

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