Education and Training Minister Chris Burns travels to Anhui province in China today to further develop education links between the Territory and China.

Dr Burns is part of a delegation from Charles Darwin University who will participate in the official signing of an exchange program between Anhui University, Hefei Normal University and Charles Darwin University.

Dr Burns said the agreement with Chinese education sector builds on the Territory Government's active promotion of the Territory as a business and cultural destination.

"The Henderson Government's China Investment Attraction Strategy is delivering great results with more than $157 million invested in the Territory so far.

"As well as hosting a visit from the Vice-President of China last year, the Territory recently hosted 300 visiting Chinese tourists, potentially one of our biggest growth markets for tourism.

"The establishment of the Confucius Institute at CDU in 2011 is a commitment to education outcomes for both China and the Territory and my visit will seek to build on this.

"CDU has developed strong ties with Anhui University and Hefei Normal University and I will meet with the President of Anhui University, Professor Cheng Hua and Professor Wu Xian Liang, President, Hefei Normal University and visit the Australian Studies Centre at Anhui University.

"Anhui Province participated in the 2011 Arafura games, sending a contingent of 22 sports men and women and I will meet with Mr Xing Haicheng of the Anhui Sports Centre to encourage even greater participation for the 2013 Arafura games.

"I will also visit Shanghai High School, which has a long-established student exchange program with Darwin High School and meet with Mr Li Ruiyang, Deputy Director General, Shanghai Municipal Education Commission.

Dr Burns will meet with the Director-General, Anhui Provincial Department of Education Mr Cheng Yi, and also meet with Julie Hecscher Deputy High Commissioner in Singapore as part of the visit.

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