MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

SPECIAL EDUCATION GOES HIGH-TECH

18 September 2013

The Country Liberals Government is building a strong society by working with teachers in the Special Education sector to develop training tools that will help both students and teachers.

The Introduction to Special Education (NT) Online Learning Course has been developed to help teachers support students with special needs overcome some of their learning challenges.

The course, which will be offered to all government and non-government schools, focuses on a range of disabilities, including intellectual impairment, Down Syndrome, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and cerebral palsy.

Minister for Education, Peter Chandler, said he is proud to be at Nakara Primary School to launch the online course as special needs is an area that is high on his personal agenda.

"There are 891 students with an intellectual disability in Territory schools who need specially trained teachers to deliver tailored leaning programs," Mr Chandler said.

"Upon completion teachers will be up-skilled to support best practice in all educational settings across the NT, strengthening the implementation of differentiated learning for students to meet individual needs.

“Online programs are a highly valued resource in the Territory as they allow training to take place in remote areas without having to travel long distances, which can be expensive and time consuming.

“This 20 hour course is unique to the Territory as it highlights specific policies and procedures while also having an emphasis on various disabilities commonly associated with many of our students.

“There are now a number of online courses available for both school based and departmental staff who are looking to expand their knowledge in specific areas.”

For more information on Special Education and Online Training please visit the Education Department’s website: http://www.education.nt.gov.au/parents-community/students-learning/special-education-disability

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