Media Release

Robyn Lambley, Member for Araluen
Minister for Education

A bright new future for Henbury School

15 January 2015

The new $30 million Henbury School is another step closer, with the tender now open for the design and construction phase of the project.

Education Minister Robyn Lambley said the Country Liberals remained committed to special needs students across the Territory.

“This is a state of the art purpose-built facility that will ensure Henbury School students get the best possible education,” Minister Lambley said.

“It will be built on the Dripstone Middle School grounds and will enable the two schools to link more closely with Vocational Education and Training programs and facilities.

“The new school will cater for 120 middle and senior year special needs students, offering them a raft of school to work transition programs,” Minister Lambley said.

The new school will have:

- Facilities for art, sewing, woodwork and metalwork
- A sensory room
- Multipurpose hall with training café and kitchen
- Pool

Henbury School Principal Carolyn Edwards said the new school will provide for the growing educational demands of students with special needs in Darwin.

“The school was originally designed for 46 students and enrolment numbers are now nearing 100,” Mrs Edwards said.

“The new school will be a breath of fresh air for students, with additional classrooms, a larger outside playground space, therapy rooms and classrooms adapted to suit students who have high needs.
“It will also provide facilities to prepare students for life after school through work training in co-
ordination with post-school providers.”

The Northern Territory Government has put interim measures in place to help ease growth
pressures.

“A transportable double classroom is currently being constructed and will be ready for use at the
start of Term 2,” Minister Lambley said.

“We’re working hard to ensure students across the Territory have the best head start in life.”

The new Henbury School is expected to be complete in July 2016.

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