Robyn Lambley, Member for Araluen
Minister for Education

New $23 million education package announced

20 January 2015

The Country Liberals Government continues to invest in the future of education in the Territory, with $23 million in new funding announced today.

Education Minister Robyn Lambley said the money will form part of a $40 million package to assist schools as they transition to Global School Budgets and the new student needs-based funding model.

“2015 promises to be an exciting year as we roll out major education reform across the Territory,” Minister Lambley said.

“The CLP is empowering school communities. At the same time we’re ensuring funding is distributed in a fair, accountable and transparent way.

“With the introduction of any new system come implementation challenges.

“Some schools will take longer than others in transitioning. This is due to a number of factors including the way schools were funded in the past.

“The CLP has listened to school communities and taken their concerns seriously. Today’s funding announcement will go a long way to smoothing that transition process.

“We are working closely with schools to provide certainty and improve understanding of the new funding arrangements,” Minister Lambley said.

The Global School Budgets model will see the end of a centralised bureaucracy, giving those on the ground greater autonomy.

Minister Lambley said the new system will ensure NT students continue to have access to a high quality of education for many years to come.

“Education was stagnant under Labor; for too long principals and school communities were shackled with red tape and regulation,” Minister Lambley said.
“Our reform will create better learning outcomes for students by giving school communities a real say on what is best for their children.”

The funding will be particularly focused on special schools and large middle and senior schools.

It is expected the additional money will be allocated in Term 1 once enrolments are finalised, ensuring budgets are as current and as accurate as possible.

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