MEDIA RELEASE
Nicole Manison
SHADOW MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

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SCHOOLS STILL FEELING THE PRESSURE OF CUTS

Shadow Minister for Education Nicole Manison said the CLP Government education cuts have put more pressure on schools in 2015.

“Education Minister Peter Chandler promised no school would be worse off under global school budgets,” Ms Manison said.

“Instead, schools are dealing with more cuts because of the global school budget rollout.

“That means less teachers, less support staff, less programs and bigger classes under global school budgets.

“Many schools are now receiving their final budgets for the year ahead and are still having to deal with tough decisions on money, when we want them to be able to fully focus on education outcomes.

“The additional money that the government has allocated to try to smooth out the problems caused by global school budgets fell far short of covering the cuts.

“Most of the additional funding was to be allocated to special, middle and senior schools, despite many primary schools also experiencing shortfalls.

“New school councils have only just been established and they will have to work even harder to do more with less.

“The global school budgets policy roll-out has been a mess and has forced principals and school councils to make hard choices on what they would have to cut.

“Education is vital to the future of the Territory and needs strong support from government, not cuts by stealth.

“Labor is committed to investing in education and giving students, teachers and schools the support they need.”

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