Indigenous Education Strategy launched to improve education for Indigenous students

1 May 2015

Today the Country Liberals Government launched a ten year Education Strategy aimed to ensure Indigenous students can be successful and confident in their education journey.

Minister for Education Peter Chandler said the Indigenous Education Strategy has been developed to implement the Recommendations of A Share in the Future – Review of Indigenous Education in the Northern Territory.

“The review describes an education system that was ignored under almost twelve years of Labor and failed to meet students’ most basic education needs - it is in urgent need of reform.

“This government is passionate about Indigenous education and we won’t shy away from making changes to improve results so that all children can secure a share in the Territory’s future.”

To support the implementation, the Territory Government has worked with the Australian Government to align $134.77 million of the Stronger Futures National Partnership Agreement.

Stage one of three will go from 2015 until 2017 and will commence immediately.

Projects in 2015-2017 will include:

- the expansion of the Families as First Teachers Program to engage families and children in an early years learning program;
- the introduction of direct instruction to address low levels of literacy and numeracy achievement;
- the introduction of Literacy and Numeracy benchmark testing across years 1 to 10;
- transitioning students to new secondary pathways, including attending secondary schooling in regional and urban secondary schools;
- developing the employment pathways curriculum;
- engaging communities, families and students through all stages of learning to improve outcomes in student attendance, wellbeing and achievement; and
• undertake a remote teacher housing refurbishment program in addition to new housing construction in very remote centres.

“We are proud of all students across the Territory and this review provides a framework to ensure all Indigenous students get a fair go.” Mr Chandler said.

**Media Contact:** Whitney Jago: 0417 926 426