Tender open for the new special education school in Palmerston

23 July 2015

The tender is now open for the construction of a new special education school in Palmerston.

Mr Chandler said the Country Liberals Government continues its investment in special needs education with over $20 million allocated in the 2015 Budget for the new school in Palmerston.

“The new purpose-built special education school will cater for children with special needs and will be fully operational and ready to welcome students in early 2017,” Mr Chandler said.

“Special education schools maximise learning opportunities, with a teaching environment and programs tailored to the safety and amenity of the students.

“When complete, students will transition gradually to the new school, sensitive to individual needs.”

The new school is proposed to have 84 places for pre and primary students with disabilities who require significant adjustment and support because of their cognitive, physical, social, emotional or sensory impairment impact their ability to participate in education.

Mr Chandler said local firm DKJ Projects have prepared a master plan and detailed design, working closely with educators and architects with expertise in designing for special needs education facilities.

The construction will include:

- three general learning areas consisting of 24 classrooms, withdrawals and teacher preparation areas
- heated outdoor pool and associated change rooms
- multi-purpose hall
- specialised outdoor learning areas
- covered drop-off area for buses and parents
- administration building
security for access control of all doors throughout the school.

Information sessions were held for the public and school staff to learn more about the project, to ask any questions and provide feedback regarding the proposal.

The tender is expected to be awarded in September 2015 with works to commence immediately.

Expected completion date is late 2016 with the new school to be operational by early 2017.

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