Final chance for Territorians to have their say on school term and holiday dates

7 September 2015

Starting today, the third and final round of consultation on proposed changes to the school term dates and holiday breaks for Territory students and teachers has commenced.

Minister for Education Peter Chandler encourages mums, dads, teachers, students, stakeholders and community members to have their say on Territory school term and holiday dates.

“The change to school term dates in the Northern Territory has been discussed at great lengths for a number of years and will only be implemented to benefit educational outcomes for Territory students,” Mr Chandler said.

“Consultations will be conducted by way of focus groups and Territorians are also encouraged to provide feedback through the online survey.”

Three proposed patterns will be available for consideration:

Option 1 – One, Four, One, Six pattern of term breaks (Attachment A)
Option 2 – Two, Two, Two, Six pattern of term breaks (Attachment B)
Option 3 – One, Three, Two, Six pattern of term breaks (Attachment C)

Options 2 and 3 include an 11 week first term and nine week final term.

Mr Chandler said the results from the two previous consultations indicate that the majority of responders would like the dates to change however, no particular arrangement was favoured.

“This round of feedback will help assist in the final decision, which must be made by the end of this school term to be effective in 2018,” Mr Chandler said.

Round three consultations will run for a four week period from 7 September 2015 until 2 October 2015.

Stakeholders who wish to participate in a focus group can register their interest online at www.education.nt.gov.au or complete the online survey.

“When completing the survey I ask you to consider your choice carefully, it should be made with the students’ best interests in mind,” Mr Chandler said.
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Attachment A
Attachment B
Attachment C