Natasha Fyles  
Minister for Health

**Back to School Vouchers**

23 January 2017

The NT Government will spend more than $6.5 million this year supporting Territory families to meet the costs of sending children back to school through the popular Back to School vouchers.

Acting Chief Minister Natasha Fyles today encouraged parents who are yet to redeem their Back to School vouchers to take advantage of the $150 per student entitlement in the last week of school holidays.

The scheme was introduced by a Labor Government back in 2006 to assist parents with the costs of sending children back to school and can be used to purchase essential items such as uniforms and stationary packs.

The vouchers will assist 33,000 students and their families from both government and non-government schools.

“Every Territory student from pre-school to Year 12 receives a $150 voucher which will be a real help when it comes to getting the school supplies every student needs,” Ms Fyles said.

“Now is the time when parents will be considering stocking up on their kids’ school supplies for the coming year.

“As a government we want to invest in making every child a successful learner and this entitlement will certainly help ease the financial stress of meeting these costs.

“We believe families should be given every incentive to help children make the most of their educational opportunities and the Back to School Voucher are one way of doing that.”

Ms Fyles said the vouchers could be accessed via schools and the entitlement cannot be redeemed for cash. The vouchers must be used by Friday 31 March 2017.

For more information on the 2017 school term dates and the Back to School entitlement, contact your child’s school or visit education.nt.gov.au.

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