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Lighthouse project to be launched in Territory schools

Teachers throughout the Northern Territory will have expert help with integrating new technology into their classrooms through the Lighthouse Schools Project to be launched at three Territory schools by Employment, Education and Training Minister Syd Stirling tomorrow (December 2).

The Lighthouse Schools Project was designed to support teachers who are using Learning and Technology in Schools (LATIS) equipment.

Mr Stirling will launch the project at the three schools that are pioneering the concept in the Territory; Katherine South Primary, Nightcliff High and Nightcliff Primary schools.

"This is the beginning of an exciting new project in education in the Northern Territory," Mr Stirling said.

"The Lighthouse Schools Project has been developed as part of this Government’s strategy to support teachers who are integrating information and communications technology into their classrooms.

"It is designed to support the Learning and Technology in Schools program – LATIS – which saw computers, networks and satellite dishes rolled out to every school in the Territory."

Mr Stirling said the Nightcliff Lighthouse Project was a unique opportunity for the two Nightcliff schools to cooperate in showcasing education as a continuum from Transition to year 12.

The Lighthouse Schools model for the NT was developed after researching some of the best examples of teacher professional development available today.

Lighthouse Schools will show teachers how to use this new equipment in innovative ways. Understanding modern theories about how students learn best is a basic prerequisite for teachers who want to use the new technologies effectively in their classrooms.

Teachers will be able to access assistance from the Lighthouse Schools in a number of ways ranging from three-day workshops to short tours. They will be able to see teachers and students combining powerful learning strategies with the use of computers, the Internet and other new technologies.

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