The Territory Government has decided to reject a request for $100,000 funding from Croc Festival organisers because it would prefer to spend the money lifting education outcomes for young Territorians.

“The Croc Festival organisers said they would accept $100,000 or nothing for this year’s event.

“We were unable to justify a contribution that large for a three-day festival which, while enjoyable, has little measurable educational outcomes.

“Money spent on education is focused on lifting education standards and ensuring our kids can read and write.

“At a time when we are facing Commonwealth funding cuts, its critical that we ensure this is the case.

“There’s no doubt that the Croc Festival is a great experience for young people and there’s no reason why it can’t go ahead with the generous contributions organisers already receive from the Commonwealth Government and the private sector.

“The Territory Government has made a decision based on priorities.

“And our priority is to provide the best educational services possible for all young Territorians.”

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