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**Heat and humidity cause class closures in the Centre, but the heat should be on the Minister**

It has been hot and humid in the Centre for several weeks during the Christmas break giving more than enough time and warning to ensure the air-conditioning capacity at Braitling Primary School in Alice Springs was adequate and parents forewarned, Opposition spokesman for Education, Terry Mills said today, and neither was done.

“As a consequence of this, classes have been disrupted, teachers placed under additional stress and parents seriously inconvenienced, Terry said.

“Can the Minister advise parents what the Departmental policy is regarding school closure when temperature or humidity exceeds a certain level?

“Secondly, what plans, if any, are in place to ensure this information is communicated to parents in a timely manner?

“In an attempt to avoid past confusion, this applies equally to the issue of cyclone warnings and school closures.

“The commencement of the school year is the right time to ensure all parents are clear on procedures surrounding school closures in accordance with Departmental policy.

“This should be done now," Terry said.

“If the air-conditioning capacity at Braitling Primary School is substandard then it needs to be fixed. The Minister needs to tell Braitling families when he’s going to have this problem repaired.

“Parents, students and teachers need and deserve a better start to the school year than this! Terry said.

Ends.

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