Media Release

Peter Chandler, Member for Brennan
Minister for Education

**New teachers for a new semester**

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It’s not only students who are going back-to-school next week - 43 new teachers destined for schools right across the Territory will undergo a three day mid-year orientation before starting work in the Territory.

This regular program happens both before the beginning of the school year and during the semester break to help new educators get a grounding of what it’s like to teach in the Territory.

This group of teachers have been recruited both from interstate and locally and includes recent graduates from Charles Darwin University.

Sixteen of the new teachers have been assigned to urban schools, including regional centres.

The remaining 27 teachers will be embarking on an adventure to remote centres across the Territory, enabling them an opportunity to make a difference to young Territorians, whilst also expanding their own life experiences.

Minister for Education Peter Chandler said the program is designed to provide new teachers with essential information and guidance to ensure a smooth entry into their school and community.

“It introduces new recruits to Territory teaching standards, support and services, and enables them to begin establishing local professional networks,” Mr Chandler said.

“Importantly the Territory’s newest remote teaching recruits participated in a day of potentially lifesaving four wheel drive (4WD) training designed to equip teachers with the skills necessary to navigate dirt roads in remote parts of the Territory.

“4WD training was just the beginning for these teachers as they joined the urban recruits today for a two day orientation including topics on cultural understanding, special education support services, and English as a Second Language.
“Indigenous students make up 40% of the total population here in the Territory; and nearly 30% of our students have a language background other than English.

“For new teachers, insight into support services available within the department is essential for optimal educational outcomes for all Territory children.”

Government school students will resume from the mid-year break on Tuesday 22 July after a pupil-free day on Monday.

**Media Contact:** Jarrad Schwark 0437 914 736 or 8928 6617