Robyn Lambley, Member for Araluen
Minister for Education

**Territory students head back to school**

27 January 2015

Public schools across the Territory will welcome more than 33,000 students this week, with the start of the 2015 urban school year today (Tuesday 27 January).

Education Minister Robyn Lambley wished students and teachers across the Northern Territory all the best for what will be a very exciting year ahead.

“The CLP has worked hard to reform the way education is delivered in the Territory, ensuring students have access to the highest quality of education,” Minister Lambley said.

“We’re increasing autonomy so individual schools can decide which programs best meet the needs of their students,” she said.

Six schools will today become the first Independent Public Schools in the Northern Territory.

Minister Lambley said she was pleased to announce the CLP’s commitment of an additional $1 million in 2015 and $2 million from 2016 ongoing to Independent Public Schools.

“This new money is on the back of Federal funding of $1.61 million over four years. This is a significant investment in the future,” Minister Lambley said.

“This will allow Independent Public Schools to offer more innovative and tailored teaching and learning practices, positioning them to deliver better student outcomes.”

115 new teachers will take to classrooms around the Territory this year.

Minister Lambley said they were joining the NT education system at a time of important reform.

“The Global School Budgets model will see the end of a centralised bureaucracy, giving our schools a much greater say,” Minister Lambley said.

“For too long principals and school communities were shackled with red tape and regulation. Global School Budgets will empower our school communities.”

The CLP has committed $40 million over four years to assist schools as they transition to Global School Budgets and the new needs based funding model.
Remote schools will start Term one tomorrow (Wednesday 28 January).

A full list of 2015 term dates can be found at [www.education.nt.gov.au](http://www.education.nt.gov.au)

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