



Making every student count

Our plan for a better, fairer education system

The FIVE big priority areas for the 2020 NT election. These are the commitments we would like all parties contesting the election to adopt to ensure the best future for Territory kids and NT public education.

1) SCHOOL RESOURCING

"Every student should be funded be based on their need"

- No cuts to education – commit to protecting education from any funding cuts due to NT government deficit and debt problems.
- Commit to a fair funding model where every enrolled student is counted and fully funded according to their need.
- Commit to conducting the review of “effective enrolment” in the second half of 2020, as agreed to in the response to the Ernst and Young review of global school budgets.
- Provide transparent costings on true cost of funding students to 100% of SRS.
- Commit to continue to increase funding levels towards SRS goals.

2) STAFFING

“Schools should be staffed based on teacher quality not teacher cost”

- Reform the school resourcing allocation model to ensure that staffing decisions are based on meeting a school’s needs and not a budgetary exercise.
- All classroom teacher salaries costs above CT5 to be centrally funded (tax bracket analogy).
- All Principal salaries to be centrally funded.
- Phase out executive contracts and return all principals to ongoing status.
- Commit to ensuring at least 80% of school-based staff are employed on a permanent basis by expanding the Permanency Project.

3) SPECIAL EDUCATION

“Special needs students require special attention”

- Fund a special needs teacher position outside the current School Resourcing Model for schools with more than 100 students enrolled.

- Allow schools to use NDIS funding to directly fund service provision within the school environment and enhance service delivery (subject to legislative compliance).
- Change NT legislation to allow remote schools to establish special needs annexes.

4) INFRASTRUCTURE

“All students deserve a quality learning environment”

- Prioritise capital works spending for remote schools.
- Increase the repairs and maintenance budget to at least \$40m in recurrent annual funding.

5) INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT

“Invest in our local workforce”

- Restore the RATE program across the Northern Territory. Provide funding and support to NT-based tertiary providers so that they have the capacity to deliver RATE.
- Provide a timeline with specific deliverables for the provision of housing to local DoE staff in remote communities.
- Commit to increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce numbers by offering secure employment to School Council employees who have been engaged in regular employment for 12 months.