

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Purick to the Minister for Education:

Education and School Funding

1. What was the capital and minor new works programme schedule for all Northern Territory public schools for 2019 and 2020 and what is it for 2021?

The 2019-20 Budget Paper 4 Infrastructure, available on the internet, identifies all major works by school.

The 2020-21 Budget Paper 4, available on the internet, identifies the capital works and minor new works programs for public schools.

2. What is the policy for determining the prioritisation of capital and minor new works projects in NT public schools to ensure it is based on need and is equitable and transparent?

The Northern Territory (NT) Government's 10 Year Infrastructure Plan (the plan) provides transparency in planning of capital works projects. It is a key consideration of government in determining where investment is required to allow the continued delivery and enhancement of educational outcomes for all Territory students. The plan is publicly available on the internet.

3. What NT Government and Federal grants were provided to all Northern Territory public schools in 2019 and 2020?

Both the NT Government and Federal Government provide a range of specific grants to NT Government schools.

In 2019 and 2020, NT Government grants to government schools included:

- School Resourcing Model (SRM) general recurrent funding
- Back to School bonus;
- the former Special Education Support Program (SESP) for students with additional needs. SESP grants were paid to schools up to 2019 and added to the SRM funding pool as grants to schools from 2020;
- Student wellbeing and inclusion programs;
- Industry training programs;
- Professional development programs; and
- Capital Grants.

In 2019 and 2020, Federal Government grants to the Department of Education for NT government schools included:

- Quality Schools general recurrent funding
- Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment
- Universal Access to Early Childhood Education
- Remote Schools Attendance Strategy
- National School Chaplaincy Program

4. What NT Government and Federal grants are proposed for all Northern Territory public schools in 2021?

Both the NT Government and Federal Government provide a range of specific grants to NT Government schools.

In 2021, NT Government grants to government schools will include:

- School Resourcing Model (SRM) general recurrent funding
- Back to School bonus;
- Student wellbeing and inclusion programs;
- Industry training programs;
- Professional development programs; and
- Capital Grants.

In 2021, Federal Government grants to the Department of Education for NT government schools will include:

- Quality Schools general recurrent funding
- Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment
- Universal Access to Early Childhood Education
- Remote Schools Attendance Strategy
- National School Chaplaincy Program

The vast majority of direct funding for schools is via the SRM, which is funded by both the NT Government and Federal Government. A total budget for the SRM of \$541 million has been announced for 2021 compared to \$534 million in 2020.