

	NTCOGSO Election Ask	CLP Response
	WELLBEING AND INCLUSION	
1	<p>Expand School-Based Mental Health Support in the Northern Territory</p> <p>Implement a comprehensive initiative to enhance mental health services in NT schools by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Basing full-time school Counsellors and mental health practitioners in schools.- Ensuring wellbeing officers and coordinators are in addition to school-based Counsellors.- Expanding youth health nurses in schools.- Establishing culturally appropriate mental health support services.- Implementing a "grow our own" program to train and retain local NT residents, including Indigenous people, as school-based mental health professionals.- Setting a target ratio of at least 1 school counsellor per 500 students in urban areas and 1 per 200 students in remote areas, acknowledging the unique challenges of the NT's vast geography.- Creating a mobile mental health team to provide regular support to small and remote schools that cannot sustain full-time on-site counsellors.- Fostering partnerships between schools, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations, and other local health services to create a comprehensive, culturally sensitive support network.	<p>We have committed to ensuring that there are qualified school counsellors and mental health practitioners based in schools and that they are properly resourced. School Counsellors and mental health health practitioners play a crucial role in the wellbeing and development of students. They provide essential support to students in areas such as managing stress and addressing mental health issues, which can significantly impact a child's ability to learn and grow. Having access to these sevicees in schools not only supports individual students but also contributes to a positive and supportive school environment, where mental health is prioritised with academic achievement. All students should have access to these resources to help them lead healthier lives.</p>
2	<p>School Based Policing Program Expansion</p> <p>Provide adequate resources to maintain and expand the positive School Based Police Program.</p>	<p>We have committed to expanding School Based Policing. Our policy on increasing school attendance includes funding truancy officers, tailored school support by region, and holding parents accountable to get their kids to school. Parental engagement is crucial for success, and the initiative stresses accountability, transparency, and engagement within the system. Additionally, support measures will involve Territory Families, community leaders, and service providers, recognising that success extends beyond education alone.</p>

3	School Refusal By Students System Support Implement a multi-tiered system of support for students and families in order to capture data and effectively respond to student school refusal/school can’t.	We are supportive of the implementation of a multi-tiered support system for students and families.
4	Allied Health: Speech Pathologist Support Commit to increasing the number of Speech Pathologists working in schools, to increase the opportunity for early intervention and better outcomes for Territory children.	We know community safety issues deter healthcare professionals from working in the Territory. The shortage of healthcare professionals across the NT is having a significant impact on our community. Our Plan to attract and retain health professionals in the Territory starts with strengthening our laws, ensuring there are real consequences and pathways out of crime and addressing the root causes of crime. This work is absolutely critical to ensure we have the workforce we need to deliver high quality health services.
	EDUCATION FUNDING	

5	<p>Better and Fairer Schools Agreement (BFSA) 2025-2034</p> <p>NTPS Educator’s Enterprise Agreement</p> <p>New funding to cover teacher wage increases: The allocation of new money specifically to fund the difference between the Commonwealth's SRS indexation rate and annual salary increases for educators. This is crucial to ensure that the needs-based funding intended for students is not diverted to cover these significant wage increases.</p> <p>Protecting needs-based funding: The recent \$1 billion partnership to fully fund NT public schools is a positive step. However, it's essential that the student needs-based funding component of the SRS is not used to absorb the costs of teacher wage increases. This funding should remain dedicated to addressing student needs as originally intended.</p> <p>Addressing the School Resourcing Standard (funding) limitations: This election ask aims to ensure that teacher wage increases (12.9 % over the next three years) which are above the Commonwealth wage indexation, are funded separately from the needs-based component of school funding.</p> <p>By allocating new money specifically for wage increases that are above the announced indexation rate on 12 August 2024 (currently 3%), the NT government can maintain the integrity of the needs-based funding model, ensuring that resources intended for student needs and school improvements are not redirected to cover significant salary increases.</p>	<p>We share your concerns that the student needs-based funding component of the SRS should not be used to absorb the costs of teacher wage increases. We also want to get teachers off short term contracts and onto permanent contracts so they can have the confidence to put down roots in the Territory.</p>
6	<p>NTG Employee Leave Entitlements</p> <p>Commit to NTG employee personal leave to be funded from central based funding, rather than individual school budgets.</p>	<p>If given the opportunity, we look forward to discussing further with NT Schools.</p>

7	Recruitment In Remote Schools Prioritise recruitment in remote schools, improve emergency redeployment policies for schools experiencing staffing stress, and increase incentives for remote teaching in the Northern Territory.	We are committed to increasing teacher numbers across the Territory, with a priority on remote schools. That is why we will give teachers financial certainly by moving them off short term contracts into permanent places so they can have the confidence to put down roots in the Territory.
8	Middle School Funding Disparity End the funding disparity between Middle and Senior schools from the school level weighting that creates a differential in funding between middle and senior students.	We are suppotive of equitable funding but guided by a review.
9	Relief Teachers Reinstated as NTG Employees Reinstate Relief Teachers as employees of the Department, thereby ensuring all costs (and industrial relations) associated with their employment are borne and managed by the Department and not School Representative Bodies (Councils & Boards).	We understand that some relief teachers are set up under their own ABN. If given the opportunity, we will investigate further through guided conusltations.
10	Equitable Support for High-Needs Students in Mainstream Schools Commit to providing equitable funding for students with disabilities attending mainstream schools, ensuring they receive the same level of support as they would in a specialist school. Current funding for a students in a mainstream school is \$20k, whereas funding for those in a specialist school is \$50k.	We agree that more support is needed for childern with special needs. We are supportive of equitable funding for students with disabilities attending mainstreas schools to ensure they receive the same level of support as they would have in a specialist school.
	INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING	
11	Australian Acoustic Standards For NT Schools Commit to immediate and ongoing infrastructure funding to audit and upgrade all NT general learning areas to Australian Acoustic Standards.	We will consider conducting consultations to identify schools with the greatest need

12	Student Boarding Facility Tennant Creek Expedite the construction of a purpose built residential boarding facility in Tennant Creek to open commencement of school year 2026.	We are supportive of the student boarding facility in Tennant Creek and if give the opportunity, we will investigate further.
13	Special Education Centre Palmerston College As a matter of priority, allocate capital major works funding for the urgent construction of a fit for purpose, Special Education Centres (SEC) for students in years 7-12 at Palmerston College.	We are on record as supporting a new Special Education Centre for middle and senior years in Palmerston
14	Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts And Mathematics Centre Palmerston College As a matter of priority, allocate capital major works funding for the construction of a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) Centre at Palmerston College. Prioritise capital major works funding for schools to ensure all NT secondary students have access to a purpose-built STEAM Centre of Excellence.	If given the opportunity, we will consider the contruction of a STEM centre at Palmerston College.
15	Larrakeyah Preschool Stage 1 Commit to funding the Larrakeyah Master Plan - Preschool Stage 1, ensuring all children in the school catchment area can attend their local preschool.	If given the opportunity, we look forward to discussing and working with Larrakeyah Primary School
16	Nitjpurru (Pigeon Hole) School Government Employee Housing (GEH) Prioritise capital works funding to provide more than one (1) government employee house for a school principal and teacher/s.	If given the opportunity, we will investigate further.
	INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)	
17	Equity & Access Ensure every student has access to ICT, regardless of their location or school budget limitations. Remote schools must have capacity to provide devices at a minimum ratio of 1 device for every 2 enrolled students.	It is concerning that not all remote schools are equipped with the tools they need to learn. If given the opportunity, we will look into this important issue further.
	HEALTH	
18	Student Health and Nutrition Healthy School Canteens NT Forum Commit to funding territory wide 'NT Healthy School Canteens' forums to determine interest in establishing a Northern Territory Schools Canteen Association.	We are supportive of establishing a NT Schools Canteen Association. If given the opportunity, we will work with NT Health.

19	Nicotine Use By Students Targeted Health Funding Resource and implement the strategies, programs, materials, and services listed below to combat rapidly rising youth nicotine addiction rates. Targeted funding from the departments of Education and Health should be provided, ensuring no impact on school budgets. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Health Education on nicotine- Intensive Year 6 student program to prepare for secondary schooling- Allocate Resourcing to Schools- Teacher Training- School-Based Police Officer Support- Counselling Services- Policy Development- Awareness Campaigns- Data Collection and Evaluation	If given the opportunity, we will work with NT Health on this.
	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	
20	Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Schools Will you commit to allocating dedicated funding for integrating AI into the educational system, ensuring equitable access to AI tools and resources for both urban and remote schools, accompanied by clear policies and guidelines to guarantee effective and responsible implementation?	If given the opportunity, we will look into AI in schools further.
	VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION:	
21	School Council and Board Recognition Scheme Will you pledge to create a School Council and Board Recognition Scheme to formally acknowledge and support the invaluable contributions of volunteers on school councils and boards, recognising their essential role in enhancing educational outcomes.	If given the opprtunity, we will consult with school boards and councils.