



**Clare Martin**  
CHIEF MINISTER



23 January 2005

## **PRINCIPALS TO PLAY KEY ROLE IN MIDDLE YEARS**

School principals are taking part in a full day workshop on the Middle Years program which will be introduced to lift education outcomes for Territory students.

Chief Minister and Acting Education Minister Clare Martin said the principals will be key partners with the Government in the implementation of the program.

“The Martin Government is determined to improve education outcomes for Territory students, ‘Ms Martin said.

‘The Middle Years program is the first major reform of this Government’s second term in office and is part of Government’s \$42 million four-year plan to improve secondary education.

“The Middle Years approach will make a big difference to our secondary education and the reforms will place the Territory at the leading edge for education of 11 to 14 year olds in Australia.

“Over the next two months the Government and the community will work together to determine how to implement Middle Years teaching.

“Principals will be key players in this process - informing the community, and the teaching profession, and bringing those views back to the Government.

“Today I invited Principals to join with the Government in making this vital reform happen, and succeed, when it is implemented in 2007.” Ms Martin said.

Community consultation will begin in February with teachers, parents and students from across the Territory all offered the opportunity to participate.

Advertising will begin in the near future to inform the public of when and where they can have their say.

Extensive consultation on Middle Years started in 2004 and continued in 2005.

In December 2005, the Government endorsed the report, *Making the Most of the Middle Years*.

It identified overwhelming support for Years 7-9 to become a distinctive grouping in the Middle Years and for Year 10 to be part of Senior Secondary.

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