

National School Reform Agreement

Northern Territory Bilateral Agreement: 2024 Progress Report

National School Reform Agreement – Bilateral Agreement Report – NT – 2024

Executive Summary

The Northern Territory (NT) has successfully completed all outstanding actions as set out in its Bilateral Agreement under the National School Reform Agreement.

These activities have driven reform across all sectors and contributed to improved educational outcomes for students and young people across the NT.

The NT will continue to collaborate cross-sectorally to build on existing national reform to deliver the new Better and Fairer Schools Agreement from 2025.

Progress Against Each Reform Direction

Reform Direction A - Support students, student learning and achievement

Implementation of NAPLAN Online

Actions	Sector(s)	Timing	Progress towards implementation of actions (including progress of non-government sector actions)
Cohort of government and non-government schools implement NAPLAN Online.	All sectors	May 2019	N/A - Completed in 2019
Improved data processes in place to increase integrity of NAPLAN assessment data across both government and non-government sectors.	All sectors	September 2019	N/A - Completed in 2019
All eligible government and non-government schools implement NAPLAN Online, noting that, at the date of signing this agreement, no tested no/low bandwidth solution has been delivered which may affect the Northern Territory's ability to implement in those affected schools.	All sectors	May 2020	N/A - Completed in 2023

National School Reform Agreement – Bilateral Agreement Report – NT – 2024

Actions	Sector(s)	Timing	Progress towards implementation of actions (including progress of non-government sector actions)
Growth data available for first cohort of matched students who have NAPLAN Online in 2020 and 2022 based pedagogy, quality teaching and leadership innovation.	All sectors	Sept 2022	Completed - the 2023 to 2025 growth data will be available in late 2025.

Invest in pathways for remote and very remote students to provide opportunities and deliver workplace-specific skills and knowledge that is tailored to employment opportunities within communities

Actions	Sector(s)	Timing	Progress towards implementation of actions (including progress of non-government sector actions)
Mobile and embedded trainers working with approximately 15 very remote schools in 2018.	NTG	2018	N/A - Completed in 2018
Up to 225 students are engaged in accredited training.	NTG	2018	N/A - Completed in 2018

National School Reform Agreement – Bilateral Agreement Report – NT – 2024

Up to 250 students annually, and their communities, engaged in accredited training.	NTG	2019-2022	N/A - completed in 2022
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National School Reform Agreement – Bilateral Agreement Report – NT – 2024

Reform Direction B – Support teaching, school leadership and school improvement

Continued implementation of Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) with a focus on moderation and quality control measures

Actions	Sector(s)	Timing	Progress towards implementation of actions (including progress of non-government sector actions)
Participation in two cross-sector moderation activities per annum.	All sectors	2019-2023	N/A - completed in 2023
Inclusion Support Coordinators in place and teachers trained to use the Learning with Diversity Integrated System.	Catholic Education	2019-2023	N/A - completed in 2023
Project governance structure established through the network leaders within Education NT Strategy (coaches work under network leaders to work intensively with focus schools).	NTG	2018	N/A - Completed in 2018
Identify focus schools based on school improvement data.	NTG	2018	N/A - Completed in 2018

National School Reform Agreement – Bilateral Agreement Report – NT – 2024

Actions	Sector(s)	Timing	Progress towards implementation of actions (including progress of non-government sector actions)
Deliver intensive support to focus schools in 5-week sprints.	NTG	2018-2023	N/A - completed in 2023
Evaluate at end of each 5-week sprint – refine strategies where necessary.	NTG	2018-2023	N/A - completed in 2023

Strengthen local governance arrangements in remote and very remote school communities, ensuring decisions are community-led

Actions	Sector(s)	Timing	Progress towards implementation of actions (including progress of non-government sector actions)
Develop Local Decision Making assessment continuum reflective of the Northern Territory Government Influence Model.	NTG	By Dec 2018	N/A - Completed in 2018
Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations Incorporated (NT COGSO) to develop governance training protocols and schedule of visits	NTG	By Dec 2020	N/A - Completed in 2019

National School Reform Agreement – Bilateral Agreement Report – NT – 2024

and workshops in remote and very remote communities.			
Ongoing engagement with local communities to enhance school engagement and local governance across 50 per cent of remote and very remote government schools.	NTG	By Dec 2020	N/A - Completed in 2020

Assist schools to improve governance and financial management practices

Actions	Sector(s)	Timing	Progress towards implementation of actions (including progress of non-government sector actions)
Provide leadership and school board professional development with an emphasis on roles and responsibilities and how to work effectively together	Independent Schools	2018-2023	N/A - Completed in 2020
Provide assistance and training for Independent schools to improve financial management	Independent Schools	2018-2023	N/A - Completed in 2021

National School Reform Agreement – Bilateral Agreement Report – NT – 2024

Assist schools to improve governance practices

Actions	Sector(s)	Timing	Progress towards implementation of actions (including progress of non-government sector actions)
School leader and teacher recruitment and appointment processes reviewed and updated.	Catholic Education	2018	N/A - Completed in 2018
Review of operations, personnel and structures to ensure support for schools is in line with best practice.	Catholic Education	2018	N/A - Completed in 2018
Review and refocus the CENT School Improvement and Renewal Framework to ensure an ongoing, rigorous approach to school self-assessment and review.	Catholic Education	2019	N/A - Completed in 2019
School Improvement Assessment, External Validation and Registration Renewal processes completed for all schools.	Catholic Education	2019-2023	N/A - Completed in 2021

National School Reform Agreement – Bilateral Agreement Report – NT – 2024

Professional development programs and appraisal processes implemented for middle and senior school and system leaders.	Catholic Education	2019-2023	N/A - Completed in 2021
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National School Reform Agreement – Bilateral Agreement Report – NT – 2024

Reform Direction C – Enhancing the national evidence base

Implement a system wide, data driven, coherent school and system improvement framework. The reforms will drive evidence-based strategies that will deliver differentiated support for Territory schools and ensure a focus on continuous school improvement

Actions	Sector(s)	Timing	Progress towards implementation of actions (including progress of non-government sector actions)
Establish a School and System Improvement delivery unit to develop and implement a school and system improvement framework.	NTG	Oct 2018	N/A - Completed in 2018
Develop standardised metrics for schools and system performance and improvement.	NTG	2019	N/A - Completed in 2019
Develop resources identifying evidence-based school improvement strategies.	NTG	By Dec 2020	N/A - Completed in 2020
Evaluate the school improvement framework.	NTG	2021	N/A - completed in 2023