



Australian Education Union - Federal Office

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ACCESS TO SCHOOLING IS THE KEY SAYS AEU

As the raft of legislation giving the Federal Government the power to conduct its emergency intervention into Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory is passed through the Senate, the Australian Education Union today has called on the Federal Government to ensure that all children in these communities have access to early childhood education and school services.

“Education will be the key to resolving many of the issues outlined in the ‘Little Children are Sacred’ report,” said Ms Pat Byrne, AEU Federal President.

“Children in these targeted communities have the right to access high quality education in their home communities, yet the funding attached to the Federal Government’s intervention will not provide additional resources for much needed school and early childhood infrastructure, the extra teachers necessary and the additional teacher housing which will be needed to accommodate them.”

“The Howard Government can no longer pass the buck on this issue to the NT Government, once this legislation is passed. It must accept that it has an obligation to provide adequate and appropriate resources to meet the educational needs of these children and their families,” Ms Byrne said.

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