

Northern Territory Board of Studies

Communiqué – 10 August 2026 board meeting

The Northern Territory Board of Studies (NTBOS) met on Monday 10 August 2026 to progress its advisory responsibilities under the 2026 Commissioning Letter. The Board continued its focus on curriculum, assessment, student outcomes, and cross-sector governance matters.

- The Board received detailed presentations on current career education and career advice arrangements across NT schools, including workforce capability, qualification requirements, and service gaps across urban, regional and remote settings. The Board received presentations on career education and career advice across government, Catholic and independent schools. Members considered workforce capability, qualification requirements and service delivery challenges, particularly in regional and remote communities. The Board discussed potential future models to strengthen career advice provision and support student transitions into further education, training and employment.
- Members considered ongoing work to develop a Northern Territory education performance metrics framework aligned to national agreements. The framework is intended to support consistent monitoring and reporting of educational outcomes across government, Catholic and independent school sectors while recognising jurisdictional and data limitations.
- The Board received updates on explicit instruction implementation across NT Government schools, noting progress across preparing, delivering and sustaining phases. Catholic (CENT) and independent (AISNT) sectors provided insights into their instructional models, professional learning, and evidence-based practices.
- Teaching and Learning Services provided an update confirming full implementation of Version 9 across NT Government schools. Members noted the full implementation of Australian Curriculum Version 9 across NT Government schools and discussed opportunities to improve alignment between curriculum delivery, explicit instruction, school improvement initiatives and monitoring of student outcomes.
- The Board received an update on the CDU VET qualification issue. Members noted that no NT school-based students were disadvantaged and that Skills NT is strengthening contract management, accountability and monitoring arrangements across registered training organisations.
- Planning is underway for the 2026 NTBOS Excellence Awards, with proposed dates of 29 January (Darwin) and 5 February (Alice Springs). Members discussed preparations for the 2026 NTBOS Excellence Awards and opportunities to strengthen recognition of student achievement. This included consideration of a potential award recognising excellence in modified or alternative learning pathways to better acknowledge diverse forms of student success.
- Members considered legal advice regarding the Board's role in policy development and agreed that future curriculum and assessment guidance should align with legislative responsibilities and emerging governance arrangements.
- Members discussed transition arrangements for the proposed Education Standards and Registration Board, including governance structures, advisory mechanisms, workforce planning and risks associated with implementation. The Board emphasised the importance of maintaining a strong advisory function and preserving cross-sector educational expertise during the transition.

- Members reviewed progress against priorities outlined in the Minister's 2026 Commissioning Letter and agreed that significant progress has been made across careers advice, performance monitoring, curriculum implementation and student achievement recognition. Further advice will be provided to the Minister later in 2026.

Next NT Board of Studies board meeting

The next NT Board of Studies meeting will take place on Monday 19 October 2026.