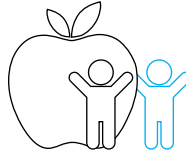




February 2020

Free education for three-year-olds starts



A group of inner Canberra's three-year-old children will start receiving free early childhood education this month.

The children are part of a trial offering 15 hours a week of free education for three-year-olds.

The program will start at five locations in central Canberra.

→ More at education.act.gov.au/early-childhood

In our back-to-school issue

- School cleaners now on staff
- Bright future for Narrabundah College



A message from the Chief Minister

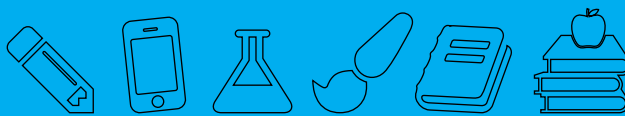
This summer's bushfires in our region, and associated smoke, have been a challenge for all Canberrans and I thank you all for your patience and hard work over recent weeks.

I would particularly like to thank our staff at the ACT Emergency Services Agency, Canberra Health Services and ACT Health, and the ACT Rural Fire Service volunteers, for keeping our community safe and healthy in difficult and testing circumstances.

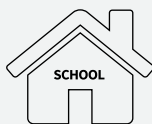
I'm proud of the amazing community spirit Canberrans have shown over the summer and the ACT Government will continue to work hard to protect Canberrans throughout the remainder of the bushfire season.

Andrew Barr





School cleaners now on staff



Canberra's school cleaners are now ACT Public Service staff.

More than 300 former contract cleaners have accepted secure jobs with the ACT Government.

→ More at act.gov.au/ourcanberra



From left to right: Sahlu Mebrahru, Ucubatsae, Van Phuc Le, Kiba Lhamo, Kinley Pem and Lydia Utting.

Devices for all high school students

Every ACT public high school student will have use of a Chromebook this year.

This enables all students to access a device regardless of family circumstances.



New Motor Accident Injuries Scheme in place



If you are injured in a motor vehicle accident from 1 February you will receive fairer, faster and more comprehensive support under the ACT's new Motor Accident Injuries Scheme.

The scheme will provide lower premiums, too.

→ More at act.gov.au/maic



Better safety around inner Canberra's schools



Remember to slow down to 40km/h in school zones once school goes back from Monday, 3 February.

You'll notice improvements around some Canberra schools, including new footpath connections, refuge islands, speed humps and children's crossings, some with school crossing supervisors.

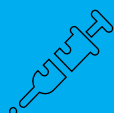
Parents should familiarise their child with their school route so they can

confidently and safely walk, ride or catch the bus or light rail each day.

→ For more and to use the TC journey planner, visit transport.act.gov.au



Free school vaccinations



Free vaccinations are offered to all Canberra students in Years 7 and 10 to keep them, their families and our community healthy by reducing the spread of preventable diseases.

→ More at act.gov.au/ourcanberra

Ari's record-breaking Para Athletics leap

Narrabundah College International Baccalaureate student Ari Gesini represented Australia at the recent World Para Athletics Championships in Dubai.

Ari placed fourth overall in the long jump with a 6.16m jump, setting an all-time Australian record. The teenager is one of the youngest athletes in the Australian

team and was the youngest in the long jump field in Dubai.

→ More act.gov.au/ourcanberra



Graham Mackay is one of the psychologists supporting ACT students.

More psychologists in Canberra schools



More psychologists are supporting our schools in inner Canberra.

Five new school psychologists joined the ACT public school system this year. The total number working across our schools is now 81.

School psychologists work with families, school staff and other allied health professionals to provide a strong support network for students.

→ More act.gov.au/ourcanberra



Bright future

for Narrabundah
College

Major upgrades to modernise Narrabundah College are being drawn up and will incorporate feedback from the school's community.

The ACT Government has committed to a major upgrade of the campus to improve facilities for all students. More than 1,000 pieces of feedback gathered from the community over six weeks will shape the changes.

→ More narrabundahc.act.edu.au

Secondary Teacher of the Year on song

Campbell High teacher Kylie Brown runs a band program that has more than doubled in size.

The 2019 ACT Public Education Awards Secondary Teacher of the Year has also established links with the ANU School of Music and community bands to develop student pathways and networks.

Kylie has also provided enriching opportunities and equity of access, particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and those with disabilities.

→ More act.gov.au/ourcanberra



Festival of culture returns



Get set for your annual summer fix of world street food and cultural diversity.

The National Multicultural Festival is back from 21 to 23 February. More than 200,000 people are expected to flock to the festival's food stalls and enjoy performances from many lands on six stages over the three days.

There will be information stalls, cultural displays, and on Saturday, the vibrant sea of colour and sound that is the festival parade.

→ More at multiculturalfestival.com.au



National Multicultural Festival
Canberra City
21-23 February



Celebrate **Enlighten**

Canberra and the skies above will be transformed during the annual **Enlighten Festival** from 28 February to 15 March.

Illuminations will light up national attractions and more after dark from 28 February to 9 March. The Night Noodle Markets will operate alongside the light displays. Also on the program are:

- **7 to 15 March:** Canberra Balloon Spectacular
- **6 March:** Lights! Canberra! Action!
- **8 March:** Symphony in the Park
- **9 March:** Canberra Day celebrations
- **14 March:** Hit 104.7 Skyfire

→ For more, visit enlightencanberra.com

Balloon Spectacular
7-15 March



Rugby is back!

Catch the Brumbies v Reds when Super Rugby returns on 31 January.

→ For tickets, visit premier.ticketek.com.au



Howzat!

See some of the world's best cricketers in action when five matches of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup are played in Canberra from 26 to 28 February.

Catch the following games at picturesque Manuka Oval:

- **26 February:** England v Thailand and West Indies v Pakistan
- **27 February:** Australia v Bangladesh
- **28 February:** South Africa v Thailand and England v Pakistan

→ For tickets, visit tickets.t20worldcup.com



MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN

The Our CBR email newsletter is now published fortnightly.

Sign up at act.gov.au/ourcbrsubscribe

For the latest stories, follow us on social media or visit act.gov.au/ourcanberra

Produced by: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

