



Tony Simpson MLA

Member for Serpentine-Jarrahdale

9 January 2008

Upgrades to Byford Primary School good, but need to go further

Local MLA Tony Simpson has called on the State Government to go further with its upgrades to the facilities at Byford Primary School.

“The Government’s upgrades to Byford Primary are laudable, but need to go further,” said Mr Simpson.

“Byford Primary School is eighty six years old and many of its facilities are in urgent need of repair or upgrade.

“This is an issue that I have been chasing for several months now.

“In July I wrote to local developers asking them to contribute to the upgrading of the school’s buildings and in November I tabled a petition from 229 members of the local community, asking the State Government to upgrade the school’s administration block.

“I followed up this petition by writing personally to the Minister for Education and Training, asking him to directly intervene and take action to help the school.

“I am glad that the Minister has listened to what I had to say and has begun the upgrades.

“However, it is not just the administration block that needs to be upgraded. Most of the school’s buildings are old and many of them need significant work.

“Our schools are formative places in our children’s lives and they should be safe and comfortable places that our children are happy to go to so that they can learn what they need to know to succeed in life.

“The State Government has a duty to make sure that this is what are school are like.

“I call on Premier Carpenter and Education Minister McGowan to start making our schools the places they should be, starting with Byford Primary School.”