



DISTANCE EDUCATION CENTRES

AIM: To ensure that all school age students living and studying in geographic isolation have access to and receive the highest standard of educational services.

OBJECTIVES:

1. That ICPA support the development and expansion of Distance Education Centres. (Herein referred to as 'the school').
2. That the schools work in co-operation with each other to ensure that maximum benefits are gained from all available correspondence materials and resources.
3. That all students and Home Tutors/Supervisors be provided with the necessary equipment., technology hardware and training needed to fulfil ail the requirements of their year level and the skills required for the use of such.
4. That Core Curriculum in all years be maintained and that a system of assessment be carried through all core subject areas.
5. Where applicable schools negotiate with interstate Distance Education Centres to purchase or broker the use of subject materials not currently available in the NT, and that where necessary these courses be properly adapted to conform with current NT Board of Studies courses.
6. That supplementary resource materials which must accompany each course be reviewed annually by School Councils and staff as courses change.
7. That the NTSCS actively pursue student access to vocational and other courses in line with the key competency areas.
8. That it be highly desirable that a teacher have at least one years experience in a classroom or have completed a Distance Education course.
9. That in-service training be available to Distance Education teachers to provide them with the necessary skills for course writing and design, and the use of radio, video, computer and other current technologies.
10. That correspondence courses which are developed within the school be overseen by teachers skilled in course writing for that particular subject area and level.

- 11.** Teachers and Home Tutors/Supervisors be encouraged to attend related conferences and seminars and that details of such be circulated well in advance of the date.
- 12.** That all students receive at least one full school day home visit per year with special consideration given to those students with Special Needs.
- 13.** That at least one In-School period per year be regarded as socially and educationally essential and that the current trend of SOAs to hold annual camps, excursions and sporting activities be maintained.
- 14.** That 1800 numbers be readily available for student, parent or supervisor assistance and tutorials.
- 15.** That decentralisation of distance education centres be maintained.
- 16.** That in-service training be provided for all Supervisors and that instructional videos be made to demonstrate and explain subject areas where necessary.
- 17.** That an appropriate allowance be made available to secondary age students to fund travel to science, art and cultural activities, especially where they are applicable to subjects being studied.
- 18.** Access to suitable technology such as: transceivers plus aerials and/or designated telephone lines with hands-free telephones be made available to all students with the provision of sufficient independent frequencies to allow adequate time for:
 - (a)** regular "on air" lessons
 - (b)** communication between Teachers, Students and Supervisors.
- 19.** That the schools be provided with sufficient appropriate facilities, equipment and staff to meet the needs of the students.