

**ITEM GOVERNMENT MOTOR VEHICLES – ACCESS BY
TEACHING STAFF TO DEPARTMENTAL VEHICLES
IN REMOTE AREAS**

POLICY The Northern Territory Department of Employment, Education and Training has recognised that employees in remote areas may be disadvantaged by the lack of suitable public transport for the conveyance of goods and other materials. Additionally, there are problems arising from the lack of public distribution systems.

Staff in remote localities are to be given equitable access to existing departmental vehicles for a range of uses.

The provision of vehicles to remote schools is primarily to facilitate the effective operation of schools and education programs. School vehicles can be used for transport of staff and students in connection with school activities. Such use should never exceed the passenger capacity of the vehicle and the number of seat belts provided.

School vehicles are also intended for use in transporting departmental supplies from delivery points to schools.

In cases where alternative use does not conflict with the primary function of the vehicle, Principals may approve the use of departmental vehicles for the following purposes

- where suitable unused capacity exists in a departmental vehicle collecting departmental supplies from a local barge landing or airstrip, this may be used for the carriage of employees' personal supplies—employees will be expected to insure such goods and the department will accept no responsibility for delivery in good condition
- for the transportation of large items such as furniture and whitegoods
- for the removal of refuse to community dumps where the departmental vehicle is suitably constructed or is fitted with a suitable trailer.

Approval will usually only be given in cases where a teacher does not have a vehicle at the site or it is not constructed to undertake the necessary function. Use of school vehicles shall not include personal recreation activities nor travel in connection with vacations.

Approval of the use of departmental vehicles by the local community or other government departments should be sought from the General Manager Schools, although the Principal may approve such use in an emergency.

Contact Officer General Manager
 People and Learning

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