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## Dymock's literacy foundation launched in Alice

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Alice Springs High School has become one of the first Territory beneficiaries of the Dymock's Literacy Foundation, receiving a \$2500 grant for the purchase of books for the school library.

Employment, Education and Training Minister Syd Stirling, who will help launch the Foundation and hand over the grant in Alice Springs today, said the NT

Government applauded Dymocks' efforts to improve literacy levels throughout Australia.

"Sound literacy skills are the foundation stones of educational achievement and Government is committed to ensuring every Territory student can read, write and spell when they leave school," he said.

"We have started to record some early success in this area, with the number of Territory students – including Indigenous students – achieving the national benchmarks in reading, writing and numeracy steadily growing.

"The NT Government is proud to be associated with the Dymocks Literacy Foundation, as the grants they provide will assist us to achieve those national benchmarks."

The grant presented today to Alice Springs High School's librarian, Ailysa Moyses, will support the school's Reading Recovery Program.

It will allow for the purchase of modified novels for students with lower literacy levels to enable them to access the same reading materials as their fellow students. The novels are from the *Big Fulla's Series*, and are both engaging and relevant to students aged 11 to 13.

The grant will also be used to buy Indigenous illustrated and written texts called *Indig Readers*.

Mr Stirling thanked and congratulated Dymocks for their commitment to raising young people's literacy standards.

"I hope that many more literacy programs throughout the Territory are enhanced through Foundation grants," he said.

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