Teens kick goals on the field and in class

KATRINA STOKES

THE next generation of indigenous footy stars are kicking goals both on and off the field.

A group of about 300 students from 25 schools will show off their talent in the Aboriginal Power Cup today – an event that combines sport and learning.

They've come from as far as Ceduna and Coober Pedy for the nine-a-side three-day carnival which, for the first time, coincides with the AFL indigenous round.

To qualify for the sporting competition, students aged 15 to 17 complete educational tasks that count towards their SA Certificate of Education.

The tasks are aimed at keeping Aboriginal students in schools.

Year 12 Coober Pedy Area School student Maree Watson, 18, said she loved the course because it was helping set up her future.

"This is my first year playing footy... I'm a bit uncoordinated but it's fun," she said.

The boys' and girls' finals will be at AAMI Stadium before the Power v North Adelaide game at 11.30am on Saturday.