



**NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE**

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Celebrations for Dapto High School cadet firefighter graduates**

**5 July 2018**

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Illawarra District today congratulated the 19 students and one teacher who successfully completed the Secondary School Cadet Program at Dapto High School.

NSW RFS Illawarra District Inspector Michael Gray praised the participants' commitment to the long running cadet program, which teaches basic firefighting skills and develops confidence, team work, leadership and initiative.

"These cadets have completed a 10 week course which has taught them skills and knowledge that will last a lifetime," Inspector Gray said.

"As well as learning about fire behaviour, the students have gained an appreciation of the vital contribution emergency services make to the community and the importance of the work that they carry out every day across the state.

"The program also presented students with the opportunity to experience firsthand the camaraderie and community spirit that comes with volunteering."

Inspector Gray thanked Dapto High School for its continued support of the program, noting that this is the fourth year that it has been offered at the school.

"It is great to see there is genuine enthusiasm for this important community based program and I would like to thank Dapto High School principal Andrew FitzSimons and his staff for helping to make this program such a success," Inspector Gray said.

"I would also like to thank the six volunteers as well as the Illawarra District staff and volunteers who facilitated the course.

"NSW RFS members work closely with schools and communities to ensure that everyone is as well prepared as possible for the threat of fire and are proud to pass on the ideals of community service, dedication and teamwork to the next generation."