



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



MEDIA RELEASE

Congratulations in order for Keira High School cadet firefighters

20 September 2017

Twenty-two students and a teacher from Keira High School were congratulated today by NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Illawarra District Manager Superintendent Greg Wardle for their successful completion of the NSW RFS Secondary School Cadet Program.

Superintendent Wardle said the cadet program is the ideal way to introduce young people to the important role volunteer firefighters play in protecting communities from fire.

"The cadets have completed a 10 week course which has provided them with skills and knowledge that will last a lifetime," Superintendent Wardle said.

"As well as examining fire behaviour and firefighting skills, the students have been taught essential fire safety techniques and gained an appreciation of the work our emergency services do every day across the state.

"The cadet program also offers students the opportunity to experience firsthand the commitment and camaraderie that comes with volunteering."

Superintendent Wardle said this is the second time Keira High School has offered the NSW RFS Secondary School Cadet Program to its students.

"It is fantastic that there is genuine enthusiasm for this important community based program and I hope it will continue to be part of Keira High School's curriculum for many years to come," Superintendent Wardle said.

Superintendent Wardle also paid tribute to the eight cadet trainers and six volunteers, along with staff from the Illawarra District and cadet coordinator Brian Baker, who facilitated the course.

"In addition to our NSW RFS members, I would also like to extend a special thanks to the principal and staff from Keira High School for helping to make this program such a success," Superintendent Wardle said.

"NSW RFS members thoroughly enjoy working closely with schools and communities to ensure that everyone is as well prepared as possible for the very real threat of fire.

"The Service is proud to pass on the ideals of community service, dedication and teamwork to the next generation."

**For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on (02) 9898 1855.
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