



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Congratulations to graduating Hawkesbury High School cadets

**30 October 2023**

Ten students from Hawkesbury High School have graduated from the RFS Secondary School Cadet Program today, after successfully completing the 13-week course.

RFS Superintendent Karen Hodges said the program is the ideal way to introduce young people to the important role volunteer firefighters play within communities.

“These cadets have completed a program that has given them skills which will last a lifetime,” Superintendent Hodges said.

“As well as examining fire behaviour, the students were taught essential fire safety techniques and gained an appreciation of the work our emergency services do every day in this state.

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

Superintendent Hodges said the program teaches the students skills including basic firefighting, fire safety as well as confidence and teamwork.

“It is great to see genuine enthusiasm for this important community based program and hope it now continues as part of the school’s curriculum for years to come,” he said.

“In addition to our RFS members, I would also like to extend a special thanks to the Principal, teachers and staff from Hawkesbury High School for helping to make this program such a success.”

Superintendent Hodges also paid tribute to the volunteers and staff from the Hawkesbury District who facilitated the course.

“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. Firefighters cannot do it alone,” she said.

“The Service is proud to pass on the ideals of community service, dedication and teamwork to the next generation and also hopefully gain some more RFS volunteers within our brigades.”



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