



RFS

Media release

Future bush firefighters graduate from school cadet program

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Some of the bush fire fighters of tomorrow have graduated on the Far South Coast, after completing the challenging Secondary School Cadet Program run by the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS).

RFS Inspector Chris Anderson congratulated 14 Year 11 students from Lumen Christi Catholic College, who celebrated their graduation today.

“As well as examining fire behaviour, the participants have learned essential fire safety techniques and gained an appreciation of the work emergency services do every day across the state,” Inspector Anderson said.

“The course also teaches young people about the important contribution volunteer firefighters make to the local community, provides them with firefighting skills and knowledge, and instils values such as teamwork, leadership and confidence.

“After completing this course, delivered by local RFS volunteers, we encourage the students to take the next step and join their local brigade and complete their training to become bush firefighters.”

Inspector Anderson said communities throughout NSW rely on RFS volunteers to guide and protect them and their property, and this important program is one way to futureproof our firefighting capability.

“The RFS has been delivering this course for two decades now, with thousands of students across NSW graduating,” he said.

“The program has been undertaken 16 times at Lumen Christi Catholic College, with four RFS volunteers and staff members from Bega Valley conducting the training this year under the leadership of Far South Coast District Group Officer Peter Reynolds.

“It is fantastic to see such enthusiasm for this program from students and educators, and I would like to thank School Principal Shane Giles for his support in making this course available to his pupils.”