

## Q& A – Rabbitohs player Dave Tyrell

*Rabbitohs Player Dave Tyrell isn't only a star on the football pitch – he is also helping to mentor local children through the South Cares Program supported by ATP. We talk to Dave about how his community work is making a difference – and how eating lollies helps him prepare for a game.*



### 1. When did you get involved with the South Cares Program?

I got involved in 2009 through the Teachers' Aide program. We started going out to La Perouse Public School to work with the teachers and the kids and it's been a rewarding experience every since.

### 2. Can you tell us about your involvement with the Teacher's Aide Program?

Basically we help the teachers but sitting with the kids and helping them with their lessons. This obviously helps the kids as well. We sit in the classroom with the students and help them answer the questions the teacher sets for their work. We try and keep the schoolwork away from football to help the kids concentrate on the work rather than footy

### 3. What benefits does the program have for local children?

The kids get to work with us on their school work and they get to know us away from the footy field or their TV. A lot of kids see footballers as role models so they look up to us and use us to help them study and to become better students. We always try to set a good example for them to follow.

### 4. What has been the highlight of taking part in South Cares?

The highlight is definitely working with the kids. The children enjoy having the players there and we have the opportunity to encourage them to do their work and to explain to them why doing their school is important. It's also good to give back to the community. They put so much passion and support into us on the field so it's good to give them something back. It's also fun hanging out with the children. It keeps your feet on the ground.

### 5. What inspires you both on and off the field?

On the field I try my best to not let anyone down. We're all working towards the same goal so we all play for each other. We all want to play and secure a position in the NRL side. Off the field my inspiration is the kids we work with and seeing them learn.

### 6. How do you settle your nerves before a game?

I eat jellybeans. I don't know why it works, but it does. I love my lollies.

**7. What do you like doing in your spare time to relax?**

I like watching TV and playing on my Xbox. I also like to get out and have a hit of golf. I find it very relaxing.

**8. What has been your football highlight so far this year?**

The Tigers game at ANZ Stadium was awesome. It went to golden point extra time and we won after the final siren when Dylan Farrell scored his third try on debut. It was such a good team performance and it was great to be a part of it.

**9. What makes the Redfern-Waterloo area special to you?**

It is the home of the Rabbitohs, and at the Rabbitohs, I feel at home. We are all part of the Rabbitohs family and family comes from home. Our Club is located there including our training facilities so it is very much home for me in Sydney.

**10. Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?**

Hopefully I'll still be playing for the Rabbitohs! I'm only 22 years of age so hopefully I'll still be running around in the red and green in ten years time.