

All Cannings Primary School - Local Governing Body



MYTH BUSTERS – We are not the Mafia!

What School Governors Actually Do – Clearing Up the Confusion

✗ Myth: Parent governors can get issues related to their child addressed at governor meetings.

✓ Truth: Parent governors represent all families, not just their own. Personal concerns should go through the usual school channels—not governor meetings.

✗ Myth: Being a governor is a paid role.

✓ Truth: Governors are volunteers. They give their time freely to support the school and receive no financial reward.

✗ Myth: Governor meetings are top secret.

✓ Truth: Meetings are confidential to protect sensitive info, but not secret. Minutes are available to Ofsted, and schools follow GDPR and Freedom of Information laws.

✗ Myth: Only the chair of governors has power.

✓ Truth: The chair leads, but does not rule. All governors have equal voting rights, and decisions are made together.

✗ Myth: You must work in education or be a parent to be a governor.

✓ Truth: Governors come from all walks of life. Skills in HR, finance, law, or community work are just as valuable as teaching experience—none required!

✗ Myth: Governors run the school day-to-day.

✓ Truth: Governors work at a strategic level. They help shape policies and hold leaders to account, but do not manage the daily running of the school.

✗ Myth: If I raise a sensitive issue, governors will talk about me and my child.

✓ Truth: Governors treat all concerns with discretion. For example, SEN (Special Education Needs) issues go to the SEN governor. Broader changes are discussed without naming individuals.

✗ Myth: Governors are a shadowy group pulling strings behind the scenes.

✓ Truth: We are NOT the mafia! We're your neighbours, colleagues, and fellow parents. We care about our school and work transparently to help it succeed.

Want to know more or get involved? Speak to any of our governors or visit the school website!