
Tim Bennett – Chair of Governors



Tim Bennett has a legal background, having for 20 years specialised in cross-border restructuring and insolvency. He has for many years tutored for The Access Project, a charity established to help talented students from disadvantaged backgrounds gain access to the UK's top universities. Tim has a son in Year 10, and his hobbies include skiing, tennis and wine.

Tim is a Parent Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 4/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests – none

Term – 05/2024 – 04/2028

David Clark – Head



David Clark has over 30 years' experience in both the independent and maintained sectors. He teaches history & politics, is a keen sportsman with a passion for languages and travel. As a former boarder, he is committed to boarding education and is keen to be part of the wider Cranbrook community along with his wife Lisa and three young sons.

David is Head and an Ex officio Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 5/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests - none

Term – from 09/2023

Jane Burnett



Jane Burnett was a geography graduate and teacher and spent 25 years in teaching, culminating in headship. After headship she set up her own education consultancy specialising in school improvement.

Now retired, Jane has been a governor for 24 years in various schools. In her 'spare' time Jane and her husband farm a small herd of alpacas on the Kent /Sussex border.

Jane is a Foundation Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – n/a

Declared Business & Financial Interests – Wittersham CE Primary School, Norton Knatchbull Academy Trust

Term – 09/26 – 08/30

Ann Furminger



Ann Furminger started her career as a teacher at Cranbrook School before moving into the third sector and now works for Family Action. A Cranbrook resident, her two daughters attended the school. She hopes to bring a young people and community focus to her role. Her hobbies include pickleball, travel and entertaining.

Ann is a Foundation Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 4/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests – Family Action

Term – 05/2025 – 04/2029

Ben Moir



Ben Moir has over 25 years' experience in both the independent and maintained sector, currently Vice-Principal (Head of Prep) at a 2-18 Co-Educational Day and Boarding School, where he took up post in September 2024. Prior to this, he was Deputy Head and Interim Head at an IAPS School, for eight years. Ben has been an inspector for the Independent Schools Inspectorate since 2008, in addition to having been a Governor and Chair of the Education Committee at an IAPS School between 2021 & 2024. Ben lives in Northiam with his wife and two children, both of whom go to Ben's current school.

Ben is a Foundation Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 1/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests – Claremont School

Term – 05/2025 – 04/2029

Tim Lister



Tim Lister is an old Cranbrookian (1981-1984) who enjoyed his time at the school and made the most of his days in Rammell. After school he trained in Canterbury as a chartered accountant before moving on to run his own practice. He is married with two children and enjoys hobbies which include golf and riding.

Tim is a Foundation Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 5/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests - Stephen Hill Mid Kent, Director/Shareholder; SH Bureau Ltd, Director/Shareholder; Colfe's School, Director/Governor

Term – 09/2023 – 08/2027

Kelli O'Brien



Kelli O'Brien has been a lawyer in the City for 25+ years and, more recently, is also involved in a number of social impact initiatives. She has four British-Australian 'Cranbrookian' sons, two of whom are OCs (and counting), and is a member of the CSPA executive committee.

Kelli is especially keen to increase openness and collaboration between the school's governing and parent bodies, along with the wider school community, to help achieve Cranbrook's mission, for current and future students alike.

Kelli is Parent Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 5/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests – CSPA Trustee

Term – 05/2024 – 04/2028

Nick Reid



Nick has been teaching since 2008, working in a selective state boarding school, a prep school, and now in state academies.

Nick lives in Cranbrook with his partner and two stepdaughters both of whom attended Cranbrook.

Tim is a Foundation Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 4/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests – Leigh Academies Trust; Emma Spencer Design

Term - 09/2024 – 08/2028

Ronald Verschuur



Ronald is a corporate real estate professional working for a large financial institution in the City of London. He is married to Sophie, a local preschool teacher at Benenden, they have one daughter who attended Cranbrook School. Having seen first-hand the positive impact and the quality of education provided in the community I am interested to contribute to this unique historical school.

Outside of work a keen interest in everything food and wine and the practicalities of DIY and gardening keeps everything in perspective.

Ronald is a Foundation Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 5/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests – none

Term – 09/2024 – 08/2028

Richard Vinton



Richard Vinton's eldest son joined the school in 2011, his younger son in 2014 and his daughter joined as part of the first Year 7 in 2017. He is currently in his second term as a Parent Governor and as well as being a member of the Finance & Property and Welfare Committees, and initiated the Development Board in 2022. He is passionate about fund raising and increasing parental involvement but believes his finest hour was organising the school's Lord Mayor Show entry as part of our 500th anniversary celebrations. A biology degree from QMC has proved largely irrelevant to a career in advertising sales, outside of work and family his passions are travel and building a worryingly large collection of oddities.

Richard is a Foundation Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 5/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests - Video Media Company Ltd, Director; Goodwins Redbourne Ltd, Director; Flowe Ltd, Director; Volta Eco Systems Ltd

Term – 12/2022 – 11/2026

Fiona Wilson



Fiona Wilson is a proud, former student of the government selective school Hornsby Girls High School.

Fiona now satisfies her relentless passion for engaging with people and her lifelong love of learning in a leadership role for a London Advertising Agency.

Swapping Sydney for Rye her life is busy and full with her husband, teenage son and younger daughter.

Fiona is a Co-opted Governor Boarding

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 3/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests – none

Term – 01/2022 – 12/2025

Tom Wood



Tom Wood is Head of Marketing, Admissions & Development at St. Mary's School, Hampstead. Prior to joining Cranbrook, he was a Governor and Trustee of Palmers Green High School. Tom is Deputy Chair of the Marketing Committee for the Proms at St Jude's, a music and literary festival in North London. Tom was a choral scholar at the University of Oxford and King's College London, where he studied music. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and a judge for the Inspired School Marketing Awards. He studied at Cranbrook from 2008-2013, and was a member of Crowden House.

Tom is a Foundation Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 5/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests – St Mary's School, Hampstead

Term – 05/2025 – 04/2029

Gordon Young



Gordon Young is an architect, now retired from the firm he co-founded in 1984, with a passion for built environment education and was a Trustee of the Building Experiences Trust. Gordon's children attended Cranbrook, his daughter qualifying as an Architect and his son with BAE. Gordon's hobbies include sailing and photography.

Gordon is a Foundation Governor.

Governor Meeting attendance 2025/26 – 5/5

Declared Business & Financial Interests - Hazle McCormack Young LLP, Consultant, Trustee of Cranbrook School Trust

Term – 12/2022 – 11/2026
