

RESPONSIBLE SCREENED GROWTH FUND

# Adviser guide



Responsible investing made easy

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# Easy, transparent, low-cost responsible investing

AJ Bell Investments is part of AJ Bell – one of the UK's largest investment platforms.

For many of our advisers and customers, incorporating environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into their investment strategies is becoming increasingly important.

As a company that has always strived to make investing easier and more accessible, we want to provide you with a simple way of selecting the right investment solution for your clients. With that in mind, we designed the AJ Bell Responsible Screened Growth Fund, for those investors with a focus on both people and the planet, alongside making a profit.

The Responsible Screened Growth Fund adopts an approach that invests in companies that meet a minimum standard against a set of ESG criteria as defined by MSCI. These are referred to as 'best-in-class' companies. In addition, the Fund will only invest in products that exclude companies involved in controversial industries, such as firearms and tobacco production, as defined by MSCI's Socially Responsible Investing ("SRI") [methodology](#).

The Responsible Screened Growth Fund is an addition to our existing range of growth funds and, as you would expect from AJ Bell, the whole service is provided with a focus on transparency, clear communication and the need to keep costs low. This is underpinned by our commitment to innovation, and a desire to constantly enhance both the level of service and the value we provide for you and your clients.



The value of your clients' investments can go down as well as up and they may not get back what they put in.

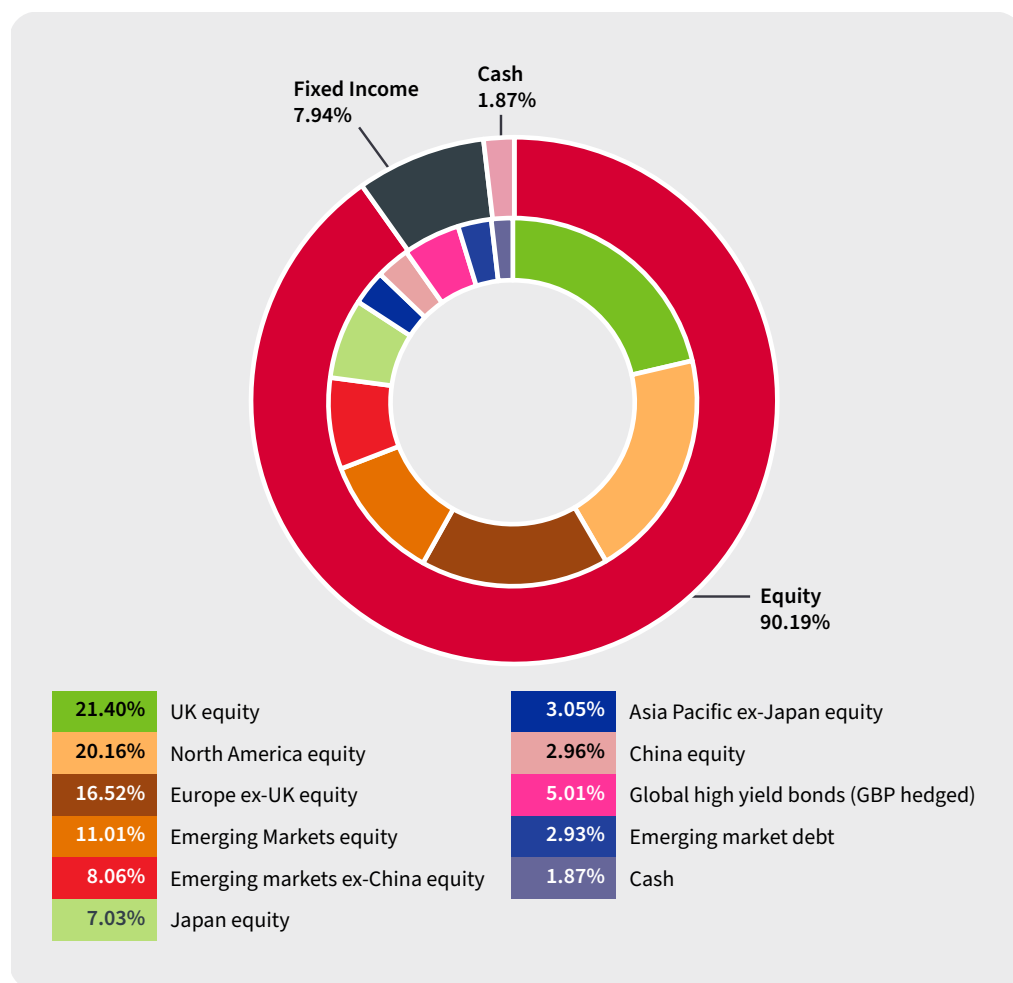
## Who is the fund for?

The AJ Bell Responsible Screened Growth is intended for clients who are seeking long-term capital growth, but who also wish to invest in line with a set of values and exclusions.

Clients should also be willing to invest within a portfolio that may behave differently to other funds that carry a similar risk level (currently a risk level 5, please see the KIID [here](#)) due to the universe of investible companies available.

## What does it invest in?

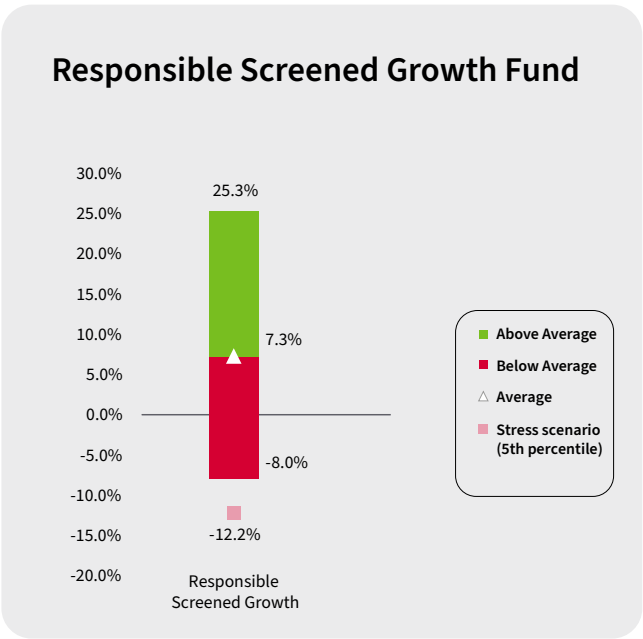
In common with the other funds in the AJ Bell range, the Responsible Screened Growth Fund is a well-diversified multi-asset portfolio, predominantly made up of ETFs. Where possible, we invest in ETFs tracking an MSCI SRI index, which gives a robust range of values-based exclusions and ensures that only the companies with high ESG rankings are invested in.



# What can I expect?

Since the Responsible Screened Growth Fund is managed to deliver only the level of risk that your clients are comfortable with, it’s important that you understand how this translates into returns over time.

We have put together the chart below to help you consider the range of returns that you could expect to see in a one-year period, when invested for the long-term. The longer you invest, the more predictable your returns become. That is because, over time, the good and the bad years tend to cancel each other out.



Data Correct as of January 2025

The green and red bars show the range of outcomes you can expect to see in 80 out of 100 years, whilst the white triangle shows the average annual return in these years.

Occasionally, markets may perform exceptionally well or exceptionally badly. In these years, statistically 20 in 100 years, the actual return may sit outside the range of expectations indicated by the green and red bars.

A market stress scenario, such as that suffered during the financial crisis, can be expected to occur 5 out of 100 years. This data, alongside the expected volatility of the portfolio, can be seen in the table format below:

	Good Return	Average Return	Bad Return	Stress Scenario	Expected Volatility
AJ Bell Responsible Screened Growth	25.33%	7.28%	-7.96%	-12.25%	12.6% - 14.7%

Using our back-testing data over the last five years, had you invested in our Responsible Screened Growth, you would have made the gains shown in the table below:

AJ Bell Responsible Screened Growth Fund	
Five-year back-tested performance (1)	5.96%

(1) Five-year back-tested performance is the annualised return from 1 Jan 2020 - 31 Dec 2025. Returns are simulated using the fund’s model portfolio as at 31 January 2024. When the ETF has not been trading for the full period, a representative index has been used.



Forecasted returns are based on AJ Bell’s target weights for different asset classes in each fund. We then allow for the capital market assumptions of AJ Bell for the relevant indices for each asset class. If we believe certain asset classes are over or undervalued at any point in time, we may vary the asset allocation weightings accordingly.

The expected return is the arithmetic mean return over a single holding period.

There is a 10% chance of getting a return above the green bar.

There is a 10% chance of getting a return below the red bar

Future returns are assumed to be in line with market returns and conditions experienced over at least the last 15 years.

Projected returns include estimated ongoing charge figure (OCF) for the underlying products but do not include AJ Bell’s annual management charge (AMC) or platform charge.

The projected returns shown may vary according to the tax treatment of your investment.

If your client pays tax on this investment, their returns may be lower. Tax depends on their personal circumstances and the rules can change at any time in the future.

Expected volatility is a statistical measurement of how widely the returns of each portfolio may vary from its average over time. This is measured on a forward-looking basis and is used to help you understand the level of risk taken in each portfolio.

The data used in this illustration is valid as at January 2025.

## How much does it cost?

We firmly believe that high charges are one of the biggest threats to investment returns, which is why we have worked so hard to keep charges for our range of funds as low as possible. We do this by ensuring that the underlying investments in the fund are selected using low-cost index-tracking strategies and keeping the fund's running costs as streamlined as we can.

Thanks to our fixed OCF means your clients will only pay 0.45% for the Responsible Screened Growth Fund.

## How do I invest?

We have made investing in the Responsible Screened Growth Fund easy. Whether your client wants to invest a lump sum or start investing a smaller amount regularly, our fund is just a click away.

Alternatively, speak to your Business Development Manager, who will know all about the Responsible Screened Growth Fund and how to get you started.

## What happens then?

At AJ Bell, we are committed to clear, transparent communication. We will provide factsheets and regular commentary on where, how and why your clients' money is being invested, to help you help your clients meet their investment objectives.



This brochure provides general information about the AJ Bell Responsible Screened Growth Fund. It should not be read or construed as investment advice. It is your responsibility to assess your clients' circumstances and make a personal recommendation that is suitable for their needs.



# Why not contact us to see how we can help?

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