# -acts

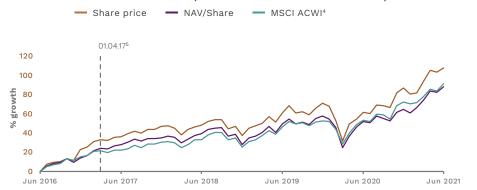
# SUMMARY OF APPROACH

Alliance Trust aims to be a core equity holding for investors that delivers a real return over the long term through a combination of capital growth and a rising dividend. The Company invests primarily in global equities across a wide range of industries and sectors to achieve its objective.

The Company's investment manager, Willis Towers Watson, has appointed a number of stock pickers with different styles, who each ignore the benchmark

and only buy a small number of stocks in which they have strong conviction. Investors therefore get the benefit of both highly focused stock picking to increase potential outperformance versus the benchmark and manager diversification which should reduce risk and volatility. We believe that the Company's diversified but highly active multi-manager portfolio is competitively priced.

# INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE ABSOLUTE PERFORMANCE (TOTAL RETURN IN STERLING)



### CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (%)

| To 30 June 2021                     | 5 Years | Since<br>01.04.17⁵ | 3 Years | 1 Year | YTD  | Month |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------|------|-------|
| Total shareholder return            | 108.0   | 56.6               | 40.2    | 28.9   | 11.1 | 2.2   |
| NAV total return                    | 96.3    | 58.4               | 41.2    | 29.1   | 14.8 | 3.3   |
| MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup> | 91.4    | 57.2               | 43.7    | 24.6   | 11.1 | 4.0   |

The NAV total return reflects the impact of owning investments other than global equities prior to 30 June 2019, which had a drag on the return. Between 1 April 2017 and 30 June 2021, the performance of the equity portfolio before fees (a good approximation of the NAV total return after costs had these legacy investments not been included), was 60.0% versus the return on the MSCI ACWI Index<sup>4</sup> of 57.2%

### **DISCRETE PERFORMANCE (%)**

| From<br>To                          | 30-Jun-20<br>30-Jun-21 |     |     | 30-Jun-17<br>30-Jun-18 | 30-Jun-16<br>30-Jun-17 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-----|-----|------------------------|------------------------|
| Total shareholder return            | 28.9                   | 0.3 | 8.4 | 8.8                    | 36.4                   |
| NAV total return                    | 29.1                   | 1.7 | 7.3 | 8.7                    | 27.9                   |
| MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup> | 24.6                   | 5.2 | 9.7 | 8.9                    | 22.2                   |

For an explanation of how we measure performance, please refer to our website.

### **Risk warnings**

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. The value of shares and the income from them can rise and fall, so investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Net Asset Value ("NAV") performance is not the same as share price performance and investors may not realise returns in line with NAV performance. Exchange rate changes may cause the value of overseas investments to go down as well as up and can impact on both the level of income received and capital value of your investment. Investment trusts may borrow to finance further investment (gearing). The use of gearing is likely to lead to volatility in the NAV, meaning that a relatively small movement, down or up, in the value of an investment trust's assets will result in a magnified movement, in the same direction, of that NAV. This may mean that you could get back less than you invested or nothing at all.

Notes: All data is provided as at 30 June 2021 unless otherwise stated. All figures may be subject to rounding errors. Sources: Investment Performance data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon Performance & Risk Analytics Europe Limited, Morningstar and MSCI Inc; Key Statistics, Key Facts and Charges data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd. NAV and NAV total return is based on NAV including income with debt at fair value, after all manager fees (including Willis Towers Watson's fees) and allows for any tax reclaims when they are achieved. The NAV total return shown in factsheets up to May 2018 was based on NAV excluding income with debt valued at par.

Total borrowings at par value divided by net assets.
Total borrowings at par value minus total cash and equivalents, divided by net assets.

Annual dividend per share divided by share price.
MSCI All Country World Index Net Dividends Reinvested.
1 April 2017 was the date that Willis Towers Watson was appointed investment manager.

6. The OCR target of 0.65% is based on NAV reported as at 31 December 2017.

**KEY STATISTICS** 

| Share Price                        | 993.0p   |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Net Asset Value<br>(NAV) per Share | 1,064.6p |
| Premium<br>(Discount)              | (6.7%)   |

llianceTrust

### **KEY FACTS**

| Capitalisation | £3,120.8M                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
|                | £3,712.7M                     |
|                | £3,345.8M                     |
|                | 9.7%                          |
|                | 9.1%                          |
|                | 1.5%                          |
|                | 31 December                   |
| Incorporated   | 21 April 1888                 |
| Dividend Paid  | Mar, Jun, Sep,<br>Dec         |
|                | 314,277,681                   |
| Buybacks       | 2,160,000                     |
|                | shares at a<br>cost of £21.2M |
|                | (0.69% of the issued share    |
|                | capital)                      |
|                |                               |
|                | ATST                          |
|                | GB00B11V7W98                  |
|                | Global                        |
|                | April 2022                    |
|                |                               |



# CHARGES

| Targeted Ongoing<br>Charges Ratio<br>(OCR) <sup>6</sup> | 0.65%<br>OR Less |
|---|------------------|
| OCR Year to 31<br>Dec 2020 <sup>7</sup>                 | 0.64%            |

7. The OCR for year to 31 December 2020 was calculated in line with the industry standard using the average of net asset values at each NAV calculation date 8. https://www.theaic.co.uk/income-finder/dividend-heroes

### TOP 20 HOLDINGS

| Name                                     | £m    | %   |
|--|-------|-----|
| Alphabet                                 | 176.7 | 4.8 |
| Visa                                     | 100.5 | 2.7 |
| Microsoft                                | 97.8  | 2.6 |
| Facebook                                 | 94.8  | 2.6 |
| Amazon                                   | 94.6  | 2.5 |
| Nvidia                                   | 56.7  | 1.5 |
| salesforce.com                           | 55.7  | 1.5 |
| Charter<br>Communications                | 50.0  | 1.3 |
| Taiwan<br>Semiconductor<br>Manufacturing | 48.8  | 1.3 |
| Mastercard                               | 46.8  | 1.3 |
| UnitedHealth Group                       | 44.8  | 1.2 |
| Baidu                                    | 43.1  | 1.2 |
| Vale                                     | 42.9  | 1.2 |
| Convatec Group                           | 42.6  | 1.1 |
| Alibaba                                  | 39.8  | 1.1 |
| Novo-Nordisk                             | 39.8  | 1.1 |
| GlaxoSmithKline                          | 39.0  | 1.1 |
| Walt Disney                              | 35.8  | 1.0 |
| ASML                                     | 35.0  | 0.9 |
| Booz Allen Hamilton                      | 34.4  | 0.9 |

Top 10 holdings 22.1%

Top 20 holdings 32.9%

The 20 largest stock positions, given as a percentage of the total assets.

### ACTIVE SHARE

active Share is a measure of how actively a portfolio is managed; is the percentage of t

74%

### CONTACT

Alliance Trust PLC. River Court, 5 West Victoria Dock Road, Dundee DD1 3JT Tel +44 (0)1382 938320 Email investor@alliancetrust.co.uk Web alliancetrust.co.uk

SIGN UP If you wish to sign up to the Alliance Trust factsheet, please visit alliancetrust.co.uk/signup

# Investment Commentary

For the month of June, the Company's Total Shareholder Return and NAV Total Return were 2.2% and 3.3%. The MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) benchmark returned 4.0%. For the first half of 2021, the Company's Total Shareholder Return and NAV Total Return were 11.1% and 14.8%, with the MSCI ACWI returning 11.1%.

Over the month, the Company's most significant single contributor to return was Nvidia Corp, which delivered an absolute return of 26%. The multinational technology company received support in June from key stakeholders for their proposed acquisition of Arm Holdings, which if successful should accelerate Nvidia's expansion in Artificial Intelligence computing, and open up new markets for the firm. In contrast, New Oriental Education & Technology Group Inc., a provider of private educational services in China, was the most significant detractor from performance in June. The share price of the stock fell as markets became increasingly nervous about

the anticipated Chinese government crackdown on the private tutoring industry. However, despite recent falls, the Company's stock picker believes that given its strong brand, scale, and high-quality offerings, New Oriental is well positioned to benefit from industry consolidation driven by new regulations imposed on the sector.

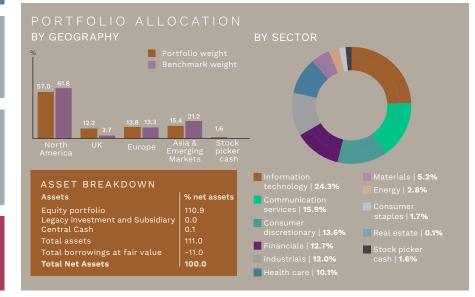
Within the Company's portfolio. a position was established in Restaurant Group, a British chain of restaurants and public houses, which following significant business restructuring is, in the stock picker's view, well placed to outperform analyst consensus expectations as the UK eases restrictions on the hospitality sector, as is anticipated in July. In contrast, the Company's position in Prada was eliminated following a period of strong performance which took the company's valuation to the top of its historic range and in excess of the stock picker's assessment of intrinsic value.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. The mention of any specific shares should not be taken as a recommendation to deal.

### STOCK PICKERS % OF PORTFOLIO MANAGED



Note: "JUPITER" and JUPITER are the trade marks of Jupiter Investment Management Group Ltd and registered in the UK and as Community Trade Marks and elsewhere.



### Important Information

Alliance Trust is an investment company with investment trust status. Alliance Trust invests primarily in equities and aims to generate capital growth and a progressively rising dividend from its portfolio of investments. Alliance Trust currently conducts its affairs so that its shares can be recommended by Independent Financial Advisers (IFAs) to ordinary retail investors in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) rules in relation to non-mainstream investment products and intends to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The shares are excluded from the FCA's restrictions which apply to non-mainstream investment products because they are shares in an investment trust. The shares are excluded from the FCA's restrictions who seek a combination of capital and income return. Private investors should consider consulting an Independent Financial Adviser who specialises in advising on the acquisition of shares and other securities before acquiring shares. Investors should be capable of evaluating the risks and merits of such an investment and should have sufficient resources to bear any loss that may result. The views, information and data in this publication should not be deemed as a financial promotion or recommendation. Alliance Trust is not authorised to give financial advice. For security and compliance monitoring purposes, telephone calls may be recorded.

The Alliance Trust Board has appointed Towers Watson Investment Management Limited (TWIM) as its Alternative Investment Fund Manager (AIFM). TWIM is part of Willis Towers Watson. Issued by Towers Watson Investment Management Limited. Towers Watson Investment Management Limited, registered office Watson House, London Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9PQ is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, firm reference number 446740.

Notes: All data is provided as at 30 June 2021 unless otherwise stated. All figures may be subject to rounding errors. Sources: Top 20 Holdings, % of Equity Portfolio Managed and Total Trust Assets data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd and MSCI Inc.

9. GQG manages an emerging markets and a global equity mandate for the Company.