

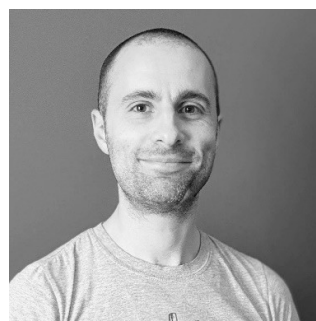
Our Trustees



Graham Wylie, Chair of Trustees

Graham Wylie is a qualified accountant with a background in computer technology companies. As a founder of three technology companies, two of which were subsequently listed on the London Stock Exchange, Graham has many years' experience of managing small companies that grow to be big companies – with all the challenges this involves. In many ways AES faces similar challenges to any other small business.

In 2014 Graham joined the Trustee Board of AES and took over as Chair in 2015. AES gives Graham the opportunity to use his business experience and make a real contribution to the sustainability and growth of the charity which was, and still is, demonstrably making a real difference to the lives of very young children.



Alex Rowe, Vice Chair

Alex joined the AES trustee board in 2020.

Alex says "I have enjoyed supporting the organisation during a challenging period for all charities.

My son is autistic and benefited immensely from his time attending Circle Centre, so it's particularly rewarding to be able to contribute something back to such a special place run by talented and dedicated people.

I have a passion for collaborative leadership, and love the strategic role, offering challenge and support to the team at AES, with a specific responsibility overseeing safeguarding. I bring with me many years' experience on governing bodies and trustee boards, alongside skills of leadership, communication, risk management and recruitment from my professional life as an airline captain."



Alexandra Staney MBE

B.Ed, MA, Dip. Speech and Language Difficulties

Alex qualified as a specialist teacher of children with learning difficulties in 1981. She went on to study at post graduate level in both very early developmental difficulties and speech and language difficulties. She developed a particular interest and expertise in teaching young children with autism.

Alex set up Puzzle Preschool (now the Circle Centre Nursery and Autism Early Support) in September 2001. She was a member of the Expert Reference Group for the Autism Education Trust (AET) for seven years, from its inception. She was one of several consultants who developed a national set of standards and training materials for Early Years Autism on behalf of the AET. Alex feels passionately about the importance of early support and help for children and families with a child who has developmental delays or difficulties and enjoys contributing her knowledge and experience as a member of the Trustee Board at Autism Early Support.



Dr. Michael Dada, Trustee
BSc, MSc, D.Clin.Psych

Michael holds a Doctorate Degree in Clinical Psychology, and is statutorily registered both as a clinical and forensic psychologist with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), UK.

He has worked with several Multi-Disciplinary Teams, working across the whole lifespan in clinical, social care and educational settings, both in the NHS and private sector. He possess well developed knowledge and skills in the areas of mental health and developmental conditions, especially children and adults with autism.

Michael says of AES "I am attracted to AES' educational support model, which approach incorporates the social and emotional difficulties experienced by the children and their parents. As a clinical psychologist, I am hoping to contribute to policies and strategies that would help in sustaining and enhancing the quality and standards of service delivery.



Aurelia Deflandre, Trustee

Aurelia is originally from France and has worked in the UK, the Netherlands, Finland and now lives in Dublin, Ireland. She holds the position of Neurodiversity lead for Google Ireland and co-chair of the Google employee resource group "The Disability Alliance", she is also a business advisor at Google Ads.

She is a late-diagnosed neurodivergent woman working in the Tech industry for more than 15 years, through her personal journey of diagnosis and lived experiences, she realised that a lot more support should be available for neurodivergent individuals and their families. She now collaborates with other Tech corporations, charities and neuro-minorities to increase awareness, advocacy and support for neurodivergent communities locally and globally. Aurelia also works not only to raise awareness and funds but also to influence policies that will benefit the next generations.



Bryan Wright, Trustee

Bryan co-founded Yellowyoyo with his wife Amanda in 1998, specialising in business and brand transformation. As Strategy and Legacy Director, he assists SME owners in envisioning their ideal future and executing strategies to achieve it. With 45 years of international experience, Bryan began his career at Conran Associates and has since developed expertise in understanding customer and employee behavior. He pioneered multichannel strategy, design, and marketing, establishing the UK's first retail interactive agency in 1990 and creating innovations like 'Click & Collect.'

Bryan has launched several high-growth international businesses focusing on strategic digital transformation. A dedicated Derby County Football Club supporter, Bryan recently collaborated with Sarah Sweet-Rowley on AES's business and brand strategies and now serves as a trustee to continue contributing his expertise.



Amanda Saville, Trustee

Amanda has worked in the charity sector for 18 years as a professional fundraiser, specialising in Trusts and Statutory funding. She has worked at national and local organisations and is currently the Statutory Lead at Samaritans.

During her career Amanda has worked with a wide range of funders including The National Lottery Community Fund, Children in Need and various Government departments. A cause-led fundraiser, she is skilled in raising sustainable income for services and projects that make a lasting impact on communities and individuals.

Amanda was delighted to join the Board in 2025 and have the opportunity to use her skills to make a difference to the children and families supported by AES.