

20th September 2024. Leeds Schools FA U11 Girls Vs Barnsley U11 Girls. Final Score 5-0

1st Half

It was the first game of the season for the Leeds U11 girls as they played against Barnsley at the Cockburn Academy ground on Friday evening. Both teams started strong with sturdy defences and the Barnsley keeper made an impressive save early on. Leeds's first half goalie Mia Coughlan and centre back Jorgi Atkin were impassable and distributed well through the fullbacks up to the wings. Leeds had the best of the play in the first half, but Barnsley battled hard in the midfield. The deadlock was finally broken when Leeds striker Rebecca Clayton finished off an excellent run and assist by winger Maisie Chandler. Leeds continued to play some impressive one touch football but were held to only one goal at half time by a tenacious Barnsley team.

Half Time 1-0.

2nd Half

After the break, Barnsley came out fighting with more urgency to the ball and made some of their best attacks of the game. They were testing but not besting the Leeds second half goalkeeper Poppy Robinson. Leeds rallied and pressed back in response with some excellent link up play and dynamic runs by Isabella Toney and Isla Hardbottle. In midfield Jemima Pierce, Paisley Gipson and Amelia Gilmore began to control the centre ground. A defence-splitting ball by Jemima brilliantly set free Rebecca to run from the half way line and calmly score her second sending the keeper the wrong way. Jemima followed this five minutes later with an unstoppable long-range strike to secure a third goal for Leeds. Isabella continued to cause problems for Barnsley down the wing and provided Cora Gacquin with a well-taken fourth goal. Soon after Isabella broke through on her own and after the keeper saved her first shot, she neatly put away the rebound to secure a hard fought win by the home side.

Full Time 5-0.

Goals: Clayton 20', 40'

Pierce 45'

Gacquin 55'

Toney 59'

Leeds Coach called it *"A really good first game for the girls"*.

Leeds U11 girls' full team: Mia Coughlan, Poppy Robinson, Emily Alderson, Jorgi Atkin, Maisie Chandler, Rebecca Clayton, Brooke Dawson, Cora Gacquin, Amelia Gilmore, Paisley Gipson, Isla Hardbottle, Savannah Hawkin, Jemima Pierce, Lilah Standish, Darcy Sunderland, Isabella Toney.