

Leeds SFA 0 York 4 – 24th September

Leeds City U/11s went down to their third successive defeat to a competitive York side but it could have been so different. Leeds started brightly taking the game to York and dominating the early stages. They created a number of early chances with striker Seth Hartley unluckily having his effort deflected just over the crossbar, striking partner Ben Harley making some strong runs and flying wingers Callum Eddleston and Oscar Jackson creating problems down the flanks. Driven on in central midfield by Mason Sheridan-Hawley and Henry Dolby it looked as though it was only a matter of time before Leeds would open their account.

However, against the run of play York broke out of defence and scored a fine goal just before the interval. This seemed to give them confidence and the flow of the game changed. Fine defending from Finlay Auty, Max Ross, Jacob Bues and Nathan Brady kept York at bay along with some good saves from keeper Jacob Murray. Last ditch defending and the woodwork kept Leeds in the game but the pressure continued to build and in the space of a few minutes York had trebled their lead. Leeds dug in and began to wrest back some degree of control in an increasingly scrappy game but never seriously threatened the York goal. Substitutes Liam Swift, Joe Straker and Aaron Clegg came on and tried hard to help Leeds regain the initiative but it was York who eventually added to their lead and finish with a flattering 4-0 scoreline.

Leeds are on a steep learning curve at this stage of the season but there are green shoots of promise and they will be looking to turn in a more consistent performance next week to bring an end their losing streak and boost confidence.