

U14 Striker Role Canvas

Reliable academy 9: stretch the line, connect attacks, finish in the box, and press first.

What we want to see

- Stretch the back line and stay available to play forward.
- Set the ball for teammates and combine cleanly.
- Attack crosses, cutbacks, and rebounds.
- Press first and work hard for the team.
- Be brave around the goal.

Touches and skills to master

- Receive on the back foot when dropping in.
- Set pass, wall pass, and bounce layoff.
- Turn and shoot when the defender is tight.
- One-touch and two-touch finishing.
- Heading technique and attacking crosses.

Final-third job

- Attack near-post and central scoring zones.
- Finish cutbacks with control or first time.
- Run across the defender for low crosses.
- Spin behind when the passer has time.
- Stay alive for rebounds and second actions.

Pro models / video study

- Kane: link and finish.
- Haaland: movement in the box.
- Lautaro: work rate and timing.
- Watkins: pressing and running channels.
- Study first movement and second movement.

How to have success

- Start high, then check in at the right time.
- Use your body to protect the ball and set it.
- Time runs behind instead of standing still.
- Keep finishing actions simple and decisive.
- If the attack breaks down, press immediately.

Team patterns

- Connect with LW and LCM on left-side combinations.
- Be the outlet when build-up is under pressure.
- Set the ball for runners in up-back-through actions.
- Occupy the box when RW is isolated or RB overlaps.

Pressing role

- Lead the press and show play one way.
- Jump on back passes or poor touches.
- Force wide and keep the team connected.
- Recover and help if the press is beaten.
- Work with the winger and midfield behind you.

Scan & study

