**AGE-PHASE PRIORTIES**

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PHASE Age 12 - 16**

**IN POSSESSION**

**Stay on the ball, master the ball**

* Look to receive the ball in all areas of the pitch and be prepared to stay in possession.

**Excite with the ball and seek creative solutions**

* Seek creative solutions to game situations particularly when outnumbered or in congested areas.

**Connect and combine creatively with others**

* Stay connected with the ball and your teammates to retain possession, open up compact defences and score goals.

**OUT OF POSSESSION**

**Positive and enthusiastic defending**

* Be prepared to defend 1v1 and be confident without cover or support.

**Intelligent defending**

* Outwit your opponent with excellent patience, timing and intercepting skills.

**Master a variety of defensive techniques and roles**

* Win the ball cleanly, regaining and retaining possession in the same action to start attacks.

**PTO**

**TRANSITION**

**Instinctive decision-making**

* Dominate transition: react quickly and positively to the first individual action when both attacking and defending.

**Positive and intelligent attacking reactions**

* React instinctively and intelligently when possession is regained, recognising opportunities to disorganise the opposition. Manage the state of the game when opportunities to attack are limited.

**Positive and intelligent defensive reactions**

* Prevent progression by disrupting or destroying momentum, forcing errors and protecting the goal.