

BRIGHTON SCOUTING & TALENT DEVELOPMENT

FINTER Coach Print Pack 2026 | 20 practical exercises, scouting sheets, a four-week plan, quiz and reflection

What can we learn from Brighton?

Brighton's transfer history highlights the value of discovering players across different markets, combining data with expert football observations, and investing in long-term development. The club's actual algorithms are not public. FINTER's worksheets are independent educational models.

Eight points for a scouting discussion

- Technique and first touch
- Scanning and awareness
- Decision-making quality under pressure
- Off-the-ball movement
- Defensive positioning
- Work rate and response to mistakes
- Learning ability over several weeks
- Potential fit for a position and tactical role

This pack is designed for coaches, scouts and player developers. Assess actions over several matches and use specific examples rather than a single overall impression.

Practical exercises 1-10

1. First touch under pressure

Age: U9-senior Setup: 4v2 in a 12 × 12 m area; four 2-minute rounds

Observe: First touch away from pressure; count scans before receiving

2. Scanning before receiving

Age: U10-senior Setup: Triangle passing with a coloured signal behind the receiver

Observe: Look up before receiving; choice of next pass

3. Playing between the lines

Age: U12-senior Setup: 5v5 in three zones; bonus for line-breaking actions

Observe: Movement into gaps and timing

4. Overloads and decisions

Age: U9-senior Setup: 3v2 towards goal; eight attacks per group

Observe: Timing of the pass, dribble or shot

5. Pressure-resistant rondo

Age: U11-senior Setup: 4v4 + two neutral players; 3 × 4 minutes

Observe: Supporting angles, turning, efficient use of touches

6. Ball winner

Age: U11-senior Setup: 4v4; extra points for a controlled regain

Observe: When does the player press?

7. The number six position

Age: U13-senior Setup: 6v6 plus a neutral defensive midfielder

Observe: Opening body shape, line-breaking passes

8. Defend on the front foot

Age: U12-senior Setup: 3v3 towards two goals

Observe: Step forward to intercept without leaving a dangerous gap

9. Read the pass

Age: U10-senior Setup: Two attackers against one defender in a channel

Observe: First-step acceleration and anticipation

10. Counter-pressing

Age: U12-senior Setup: 5v5; goal bonus after regaining the ball within six seconds

Observe: Transition reactions and responsibility after a mistake

Practical exercises 11-20

11. Mitoma-inspired 1v1

Age: U8-senior Setup: Wide channel measuring 12 x 18 m

Observe: Changes of pace and body feints

12. Timing runs in behind

Age: U11-senior Setup: Three attackers and one defender; run behind the defensive line

Observe: Does the run begin before or after the passer looks up?

13. Creativity in central areas

Age: U12-senior Setup: 5v5 plus a neutral player in the central zone

Observe: Inventive solutions that serve a clear purpose

14. Finishing after movement

Age: U10-senior Setup: One striker versus one defender, with a pass from wide

Observe: Create separation before receiving

15. Runs that open space

Age: U13-senior Setup: 4v4 plus two strikers

Observe: Recognise valuable off-ball decoy runs

16. 15-minute observation

Age: U12-senior Setup: One scout follows one player and records ten actions

Observe: Collect both effective and ineffective actions

17. Two positions

Age: U10-U19 Setup: Same player performs two different roles for 10 minutes each

Observe: Do different strengths emerge?

18. Off-the-ball only

Age: U11-senior Setup: Observe one player for ten minutes without focusing on the ball

Observe: Communication, awareness and control of space

19. Anonymous video analysis

Age: U13-senior Setup: Compare two anonymised video clips

Observe: Reduce bias related to reputation or shirt badge

20. Development curve

Age: U10-U19 Setup: Repeat three tests over six weeks

Observe: Measure genuine improvement, not just peak performance

Four-week coaching and scouting plan

WEEK 1 — Technique and awareness

Exercises: 1, 2, 3, 5. Train twice, record two observable goals and evaluate at the end of the week.

WEEK 2 — Decisions and breaking lines

Exercises: 4, 7, 12, 13. Train twice, record two observable goals and evaluate at the end of the week.

WEEK 3 — Defensive decisions

Exercises: 6, 8, 9, 10. Train twice, record two observable goals and evaluate at the end of the week.

WEEK 4 — Observation and development goals

Exercises: 16, 17, 18, 20. Train twice, record two observable goals and evaluate at the end of the week.

Printable scouting observation sheet

Player: _____ Age: _____ Position: _____

Observation 1 / date: _____ Observation 2 / date: _____

Strengths (specific examples): _____

Development goal 1: _____

Development goal 2: _____

Next follow-up: _____

Scout quiz: 10 questions and answers

1. Does scoring the most goals always indicate the greatest talent?

Answer: No. A player's role and the context of performances matter.

2. Why watch more than one match?

Answer: To reduce the impact of chance and day-to-day form.

3. What does xG describe?

Answer: A statistical estimate of chance quality.

4. What is scanning?

Answer: Looking around to gather information before and during play.

5. Can a good loan spell support development?

Answer: Yes, if playing time and competitive level are appropriate.

6. Can an algorithm know the future?

Answer: No. Every model involves uncertainty.

7. What is a positional fit?

Answer: How well a player's abilities match the demands of a particular role.

8. What can anonymous video analysis reduce?

Answer: Bias caused by reputation or the club badge.

9. Should U10 players be excluded early based on current performance?

Answer: No. Physical maturation varies significantly.

10. What makes a useful scouting report?

Answer: Specific observations and a clear follow-up plan.

Sources, notes and further reading

The sources below provide context on Brighton's transfer activity and club leadership. Reported transfer fees are often media estimates and may involve different bonus arrangements.

The training exercises and scoring worksheets in this pack were created by FINTER. They are not official Brighton academy programmes.

[Premier League: summer 2026 transfer activity](#)

[Brighton: club statement on Jason Ayto](#)

[FootballTransfers: Brighton's ten biggest sales](#)

[Transfermarkt: Brighton transfer history](#)

[GOAL: Tony Bloom and Brighton's transfer model](#)

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Use this print pack alongside the English Brighton article. Video links, the transfer simulator and interactive scouting tools remain in the HTML article; this PDF is the print-friendly companion.