

Shumaira Mheuka

Match

**Report: UEFA Youth League vs
Bayern Munich U19**

27-11-2025

By Willam Rees

Shumaira Mheuka



Current club	Chelsea
Nationality	England
Best position	Striker
Date of birth (age)	20/10/2007 (18)
Height	185cm
Foot	Right

Current level

PL2

Potential level

Premier League

Playmaking - *The ('false nine') ability to find pockets of space in between the lines, receive in an open body position, combine with teammates and use passes and dribbles to progress the ball.*

- Dropped deeper at times to link play, using clean touches to bring his wingers into the action when Chelsea were able to establish possession. His timing on these movements helped drag centre-backs out of position and create space for the wide players.
- Showed good awareness of where pressure was coming from, pinning his man and setting the ball off with simple layoffs to keep Chelsea moving forward.
- Limited involvement in the first half due to Chelsea's wide-focused attacks, but when he did start to get his touches, he made sensible decisions to help connect the team.

Target man - *The ability to win aerial duels and to hold up play after receiving high and low passes with one or more defenders battling for the ball in the striker's back.*

- Held the ball up well when receiving with his back to goal, showing enough strength to pin defenders and bring others into play.
- Aerial impact was limited in this match — he stayed quite static when attacking high balls, making it hard for him to generate momentum or height. He'll benefit from attacking those situations with more movement and better anticipation.
- Once he got himself in front of defenders, he was strong at holding his ground. Opponents struggled to get around him cleanly once he established his body position.

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Runs in behind - *The ability to make well-timed, high speed runs in behind to receive the ball in behind the defensive line.*

- Looked to threaten the space behind the defence by drifting slightly offside and then stepping back onside at the right moment, trying to time his movement so he could gain a small headstart on his defender.
- Chelsea's build-up went wide for most of the match, so he didn't get many chances to make true deep runs beyond the back line. His movements tended to be shorter bursts across the defensive line rather than long, high-speed runs in behind.
- Most of his best actions came in and around the box by making quick darts into small gaps to attack crosses, rather than traditional runs into space behind the last man.

Creating and converting chances - *The ability to get into high-quality scoring positions and using different types of finishing techniques to convert chances relatively often.*

- Took his goal really well, adjusting his position at the last moment and getting across the defender to meet the cross. It was a smart, striker-type movement that showed good instincts inside the box.
- Didn't have many chances to create off the dribble or receive in big spaces, as most of Chelsea's attacking play went through the wide players, but still found ways to make himself available around the penalty area or in the build up.
- Used quick touches and body feints to create small windows for shots when the ball came into him, even if the overall volume of chances was limited due to the match flow.

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Dynamic pressing - *The ability to correctly decide when to apply pressure and to correctly do so with a high approach speed, good deceleration and correct use of the body.*

- Pressed as part of a front two in a 4-4-2, reacting quickly when the trigger was activated and closing space with good deceleration. His pressure contributed to forcing turnovers high up the pitch.
- Worked hard without the ball, staying proactive and chasing second balls when Chelsea lost possession.
- Even when Chelsea struggled to build rhythm at times, he still remained energetic in his defensive actions and didn't switch off.

Positional defending - *Defending more statically, e.g. in a low or middle block, shielding passes towards the most dangerous zones and players in midfield.*

- Stayed disciplined in Chelsea's defensive shape, tracking back when needed and helping the team remain compact through central areas.
- Showed good understanding of when to recover into deeper positions and when to hold the line.
- His physicality allowed him to compete for loose balls and challenge defenders without easily being brushed aside.

Conclusion

Shim Mheuka had a mixed but ultimately positive performance, starting quietly due to Chelsea's wide-focused play but he grew into the match as it progressed. His movement in the box was excellent, and he showed that instinctive striker's touch with his goal, arriving at the right moment to finish a difficult chance. He linked play well when dropping deeper, held off defenders effectively, and pressed with real commitment. His aerial presence was the least convincing part of his game today, often staying too static to impact high balls, but on the ground he looked strong, technical, and difficult to dispossess. A mature display overall and a performance that showed why he's highly regarded across Chelsea's academy setup.

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