The Algorithm of Hope: The Future of Giving

(Year 9 - Ages 14-15)

Lesson 9 of 9

Lesson Summary

The Legacy Code has been written. Now, it must be executed. This final 60-minute lesson is a celebration of future possibility. Students will fast-forward to the year 2050. Acting as "Future Historians," they will look back at the "Dark Ages" of organ shortages (2024) and describe how the combination of Science (3D Printing/AI) and Social Change (The Catalyst Conversation) solved the problem.

Students will create a "Future Artifact"—a magazine cover, a blueprint for a bio-lab, or a manifesto for a new society—that represents the success of their generation's efforts. This lesson transforms "hope" from a feeling into a strategy.

Learning Intentions

Students will

- Synthesize the key concepts of the unit: Altruism, Bias, Utility, Opportunity Cost, and Consent.
- Analyze current scientific trends to predict the future landscape of transplantation (e.g., The end of waiting lists).
- Evaluate the role of their generation (Gen Z/Alpha) in shifting the cultural norms around donation.
- Create a visionary artifact that communicates a complex ethical success story.

Success Criteria

Students can

- Identify three major changes between the donation system of 2024 and their predicted 2050 system.
- Design a "Future Artifact" that visually represents the triumph of the "Legacy Code."
- Write a "Time Capsule Statement" explaining how a small action today (talking to family) led to a big result in the future.
- Use unit vocabulary (e.g., QALY, Ischaemia, Catalyst, Altruism) in their final reflection.

Lesson Details

Time: 60 minutes

Year Level: Year 9 (Ages 14-15)

Unit: This is Lesson 9 of 9 in the series.

Educational Partner: This lesson is adapted from resources provided by DonateLife

General Capabilities

Critical and Creative Thinking (Future Problem Solving); Personal and Social Capability; Ethical Understanding; Literacy.





Curriculum Mapping and Links

Australian Curriculum (v9.0)

Subject	Strand	Content Descriptor
Science	Science as a Human Endeavour	AC9S9H02: Investigate how scientific knowledge informs personal and community decisions and future possibilities. (Future tech)
English	Literacy / Creating Texts	AC9E9LY06: Create texts, experimenting with text structures to suit the purpose and audience. (Speculative fiction/journalism)
Health and Physical Education	Personal, Social and Community Health	AC9HP10P10: Critique behaviours and propose strategies to enhance wellbeing. (Future health promotion)

Queensland Curriculum (QCAA)

Subject	Syllabus	Content Description
Science	Year 9	Scientific knowledge changes as new evidence becomes available (Innovation).
English	Year 9	Create literary texts that experiment with speculative or future-focused themes.
Health and Physical Education	Year 9	Develop strategies to promote health and wellbeing.



Resources Required

- Whiteboard/Smartboard.
- Resource: "The Trend Line" (A graph showing donation rates rising towards 2050).
- Student Worksheet: "The 2050 Almanac: Reporting from the Future."
- Art Supplies: Paper, markers, or digital devices (Canva) for the artifact design.
- Music: "Cinematic/Future" soundtrack for the creative phase.

Skills

- Forecasting (Extrapolating trends).
- Synthesis (Combining complex ideas).
- Creative Design (Visualizing success).
- Agency (Seeing oneself as a change-maker).

Teacher Preparation

- The Metaphor: "The Algorithm of Hope." An algorithm is a set of rules to solve a problem. We have learned the rules (Ethics, Science, Talk). If we run the code, the result is Hope.
- The Challenge: Ask students to be "Scientific Optimists." Not just "magic happened," but "we invented X and we changed law Y."
- Key Review: Briefly recap the "Black Box" (L3) and "Opportunity Cost" (L4) so they can "solve" these in their future report.

Additional Information

This lesson validates the intellectual journey the students have taken. It respects their capacity to imagine complex solutions to global problems. It ends the unit not on a note of "sadness" (death), but on a note of "triumph" (life), empowering them to go home and have the conversation that starts it all.



