# Cracking the Codes Worksheet

## Task 1

Ciphers are used to encrypt data so that if it is intercepted it would be meaningless without knowing how to decrypt it. The message below used the Caesar Cipher with a right shift of 2 to encrypt it. In order to decrypt the message, you need to shift each of the letters left by 2. Can you decrypt the secret message?

k nqxg oa oketq dkv

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

## Task 2

You should now write out your own secret message using the Caesar Cipher. You can then swap work with one of your friends to see if you can decrypt each other’s secret messages. You should state how many letters you have shifted each by in your key below.

Encryption Key: I have shifted each letter left / right by \_ positions

Secret Message:

## Stretch Task

The Caesar Cipher is one of the more straightforward ciphers. Can you develop your own Cipher and create a secret message? Remember that the cipher must follow a standard sequence/algorithm and shouldn’t just be randomised letters!

You may wish to consider using the position of the letter in the alphabet to determine how many characters it should shift by. For example, character ‘a’ may shift by one character as it is the first letter in the alphabet, ‘b’ may shift by two characters as it is the second letter in the alphabet and so on.

You could also research the pig pen cipher. This replaces letters with symbols.

Encryption Key:

Secret Message: