

# Set the scene – Group Work

Read the following scenarios and take part in a role playing task to learn about the causes and dangers of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning.

## Scenario 1

Students are staying in rented accommodation while studying at university. They ask the landlord if their gas boiler and gas fire have been installed and serviced by a Gas Safe Registered engineer. The landlord tells them that all the appliances are safe. The students accept the landlord's reply, but they should insist on seeing the installation and service certificates for the boiler and fire. It is their right as tenants.

One morning, one of the students doesn't appear for breakfast and her flatmates look in on her. They find her still in bed, complaining of feeling dizzy and she has a headache. She stumbles to the bathroom where she is sick and collapses to the floor.

The flatmates call 999. When the ambulance arrives, the paramedics carry out CPR and try to revive her, but the student does not regain consciousness and dies later in hospital.

They discovered that the gas boiler hadn't been installed correctly, hadn't been serviced and had started leaking Carbon Monoxide fumes. Because the students couldn't taste, see or smell the fumes, they were unaware of the danger.

## Scenario 2

A young girl goes on a camping holiday with her family. The weather is good and her dad suggests they have a barbeque. As they are getting ready to go sleep, they start to feel a bit chilly. Dad thinks it would be a good idea to bring the barbeque into the porch of the tent to help keep them warm.

The next morning, Mum and Dad feel unwell. Mum complains of feeling short of breath and Dad has a headache and is feeling dizzy. The little girl isn't awake yet, but her mum and dad think she is just overtired and let her lie on.

However, when they decide it's time for her to get up, they can't wake her. She is unconscious. Mum and Dad call 999, an ambulance comes and paramedics carry out CPR on the young girl. Luckily, they are able to resuscitate her; they give her oxygen and transfer her to hospital to recover.

They discovered that the barbeque was giving off Carbon Monoxide fumes, even though the family had finished cooking with it hours before. The tent was small and there wasn't enough fresh air or ventilation, which meant Carbon Monoxide fumes were able to build up inside.