

FIGURE 10.6 Key Functions of Formal Education (Schools)

Manifest Functions (intended; formalized)

- Teach students the skills necessary to become educated, effective participants of society.
- Socialize children to be productive members of society.
- Select individuals for key positions in society.
- Promote social participation, change, and innovation.
- Enhance personal independence and social development.

Latent Functions (unintended; informal)

- Confine and supervise underage citizens.
- Weaken parental controls over youths.
- Provide opportunities for peer cultures to develop.
- Provide contexts for the development of friendships and mate selection.