Preschool children and infants are not permitted to visit the classrooms during school hours. <u>This includes visiting during class parties, volunteer times and field trips</u>. They may attend bookfair shopping, field day and evening performances.

<u>Volunteers/Chaperone</u>

Bluewater Elementary welcomes volunteers as we know volunteers play a part in our school being successful.
All volunteers must complete an on-line volunteer application <u>each year</u> prior to volunteering. If you plan to chaperone; you will need to select chaperone option and volunteer option.
Visit www.okaloosaschools.com and click on the "Volunteer" link. This link is also available on Bluewater Elementary's website.
Volunteer opportunities include: PTO, classroom, chaperone field trip, fund raising & proctoring.
All volunteers much check in through the office prior to volunteering and obtain a volunteer badge.
<u>Preschool age children and infants are not permitted to be with volunteers while volunteering. This includes field trips, class parties, and preparing for school functions.</u>

Volunteer/Chaperone applications could take up to 72 hours for approval. Please be sure to select the <u>volunteer and chaperone</u> option on your application.

Behavior Expectations:

- **Be Safe**
- **Be Responsible**
- **Be Respectful**
- **Be A Problem-solver**

Okaloosa County School District 2026-27 School Year Calendar

August 11, 2026 - - - - - - - - - - - - 1st day of school
September 7, 2026 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - No School
Labor Day Holiday
October 9, 2026 - - - - - -End 1st grading period
October 12, 2026 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - No School
Teacher Work Day/Student Holiday
November 11, 2026 - - - - - - - - - - - - No School
Veterans Day Holiday
November 23-27, 2025- - - - - - - - - - No School
Thanksgiving Holiday
December 18, 2026
End of 2nd grading period/End of 1st Semester
December 21 – January 4, 2027 - - - - No School
Winter Break Holiday
January 5, 2027 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - No School
Teacher Work Day/Student Holiday
January 6, 2027 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - No School
Prof. Dev. Day/Student Holiday
January 18, 2027 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - No School
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
February 15, 2027 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - No School
President's Day Holiday
March 12, 2027 - - - - - - End of 3rd grading period
March 15-19, 2027 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -No School
Spring Break Holiday
May 27, 2027
End of Semester/Last Day for Students

Bluewater Elementary School

4545 Range Rd., Niceville, FL 32578
850-833-4240 (ph.) 850-833-4232 (fax)
www.okaloosaschools.com/bluewater



Jordan Berry, Principal
Kristen O'Shea, Assist. Principal
Lauren Brown, Dean of Students
Heather McClaren, School Counselor

Beginning of our day:
School Hours: 8:50 a.m. – 3:20 p.m.
Office Hours: 7:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Students are not to be dropped off before 8:25 a.m.
Students are not permitted to class before 8:35 a.m.
Check-outs end at 2:50 p.m.

Attendance
Regular attendance provides students the opportunity to master required skills at each grade level. Many integral activities, including class discussions, group experiences, and direct instruction, cannot be simulated or replicated with make-up work.

Absence
Parents can email bestransport@okaloosaschools.com or write a note of excuse for student's absence to be excused. Attendance letters will be sent regularly as per the Elementary Pupil Progression Plan. Refer to our handbook for further information regarding absences.
Excused absence: illness or injury, death in the family, appointments for illness/dental, religious holiday and vacation (up to nine absences per semester – must notify the office)
Unexcused absence: an absence not meeting excused criteria, unverified absence, truancy, suspension or expulsion.

Check in (student)
If student arrives to school after 8:50 a.m. the parent and student will need to come in to the office to be checked in through our check in system.

Check out (student)
When checking out a student, parent/approved person will need to go to the office and present their driver's license. (No other form of identification will process through our system.) **Written permission** by the enrolling parent will allow someone other than themselves to check out their student.

Childcare
The Bluewater Elementary School childcare program is a before and after school program provided for students registered at Bluewater Elementary School. Additional information is on our website.
Coordinator: Gina White (850) 833-4233
Hours of Operation:
Before school ~ 6:00 a.m. - 8:35 a.m.
After school ~ 3:20 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Clinic/Medicine
The purpose of the school clinic is to provide care for a student who becomes ill or injured at school and for dispensing of medicines.



Medical Conditions/Allergies: If your child has any type of medical condition, please alert us as soon as possible as it will help us to better care for your child. We must have a note, signed by your physician, stating that your child has allergies to certain foods, insects, etc., diabetes, suffers from seizures, etc.

Medicine Administration: In order for medicine to be administered at the school, prescription or non-prescription, parent permission and instructions must be obtained and kept on file in the clinic. Medication must be brought to school in the original container and shall be labeled with the student's name. Please check the expiration date. Each administration will be recorded on the Individual Medication Administration Log whenever given. No medication, including cough drops, will be administered without permission.

MEDICATION IS NOT TO BE SENT TO SCHOOL WITH THE STUDENT.

Field Trips
Field trips must be connected to areas of the curricula and should benefit students by reinforcing the Florida Standards. Students must have a field trip permission form completed by the parent prior to the field trip.

Meal Program
A well-balanced breakfast and lunch is offered for our students daily.
Prices for student meals are as follows:
Breakfast: $2.00 Reduced breakfast: $.30
Lunch: $3.00 Reduced lunch: $.40
Milk: $.75
Application for free/reduced meals is on our website along with the menu.

Physical Education
Physical Education activities, in accordance with state regulations for elementary schools, are provided under the direction of qualified physical education teacher(s).
As a safety precaution flip flops, high heels or platform shoes are NOT allowed during PE class.
Closed toe shoes should be worn for PE and recess daily.

Transportation changes
Transportation changes for student must be submitted in writing or an email sent to our transportation email. All changes must be submitted before 2:30 p.m.
bestransport@okaloosaschools.com
Changes must have the following information:
Student's name, Student's teacher, Parent's phone number, bus number (if riding a bus).
Check-outs end at 2:50 p.m.

Visitors
All visitors must check in through the office on our Raptor check in system using their state issued driver's license and obtain a visitor's sticker. Our system does not accept any other form of identification. Events with visitors will be

prearranged with teachers to help us anticipate your arrival.