May 15, 2023

Andrew Obenshain President and Chief Executive Officer bluebird bio, Inc. 455 Grand Union Boulevard Somerville, MA 02145

> Re: bluebird bio, Inc. Registration

Statement on Form S-3

Filed May 9, 2023 File No. 333-271772

Dear Andrew Obenshain:

This is to advise you that we have not reviewed and will not review your registration statement.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

Campbell at 202-551-4224 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Division of Corporation Finance

Office of Life Sciences

Wesley C. Holmes, Esq.

Please contact Alan

cc: